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Britain & Kashmir Dispute

Announcement Made By Mr Attlee

London, Jan. 30. The Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, said today that Britain was working out instructions for its United Nations delegation on the Kashmir dispute — due to come before the Security Council soon.

Replying to a House of Commons question as to whether he proposed to make any further personal efforts to work out a settlement between India and Pakistan on the dispute, Mr Attlee said:

"The Kashmir dispute is on the agenda of the Security Council and is likely to come up shortly for discussion there. The United Kingdom government is now considering in the light of recent informal discussions with Commonwealth Prime Ministers in London, what instructions should be given to the United Kingdom representative on the Council.

AWARE OF DANGER

"I am, as always, anxious to do whatever possible to facilitate an agreed settlement on this question."

In answer to further question, Mr Attlee assured the House he was "always conscious of the danger" of war if the dispute was not settled.

He declined to make a statement on what the recent Commonwealth Prime Ministers' conference in London had done on the question because he thought it improper for one "Prime Minister to make statements about informal discussions with other Prime Ministers."

He said he had no intention of branding any particular party an aggressor in the dispute.—Associated Press.

FIRE DESTROYS 15 SHOPS

New Delhi, Jan. 30. A market place fire raged here tonight for four hours, destroying 15 shops before 11 fire engines could control the blaze, police headquarters said. Seven people were injured, including one fireman.—Associated Press.

COMMENT OF THE DAY

Britain's Defence Programme

MR Attlee's revelations of the latest British defence programme underlines the unpleasant realities of the international situation. At a time when the country had good reason to congratulate itself on overcoming distressing post-war economic problems, which at one time threatened the existence of the nation, and when the people believed they could at last expect relaxation of the stern spending controls which they had endured for twelve years, the Prime Minister has had to announce extra expenditure on defence which of necessity must demand renewed sacrifices by the people in their living standards. The new defence budget for the next three years has been set at £4,700 millions—money which has to be found over and above the revenue needed to meet the domestic budget, and which is exclusive of the cost of stockpiling. It is a staggering burden for the nation to shoulder; yet it is inescapable, being dictated solely by the realities of the moment which are to be found in the ever-mounting tension in international affairs. The British Government finds itself confronted with a conundrum: how to bring its own defences up to requirements, make an adequate contribution to the Atlantic Defence Pact, and at the same time avoid depriving the people of social benefits upon which the Socialist Government has placed such emphasis during the past five years. Clearly inevitable is a return to the Stafford Cripps' domestic austerity programme. The people are to be denied fewer consumer goods, and a reintroduction of the rigid rationing system which prevailed up to the middle of last year is almost certain. Nor does it seem likely that the Government can avoid continuation of the widely unpopular freezing of wages and profits. Human nature, being what it is, makes it impossible to ex-

Film Star Sues Studio

Hollywood, Jan. 30.

The film star Ann Sheridan testified today that any one of half a dozen actors would have been satisfactory to her as a co-star in a movie from which she was fired. The actress was the first witness in her suit for \$350,000 breach of contract damages against RKO Radio studios. She charged that after she was fired from the cast of "Carriage Entrance" without cause the role was given to Ava Gardner. She told the Federal Court jury she would have been willing to accept Richard Conte, Franchot Tone, John Lund, Charles Boyer, or Robert Mitchum for her co-star but did not think Jose Ferrer or Robert Ryan, although "fine actors" — were suited for the part. She said that after she left the cast the studio signed Mitchum for the disputed role, although she had been told he was not available for the part. — United Press.

YOUNGER'S SOLUTION

London, Jan. 30.

Mr Kenneth Younger, British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, suggested here tonight that a round table conference between the United States and China might stop the Korean war.

Mr Younger, who is No. 1 official at the Foreign Office, in the absence of ailing Mr Ernest Bevin, the Foreign Minister, was addressing a Labour Party meeting.

"In recent weeks," he said, "our delegation at Lake Success has been making tremendous efforts to keep negotiations alive. All the United Nations are concerned in this."

"The chief parties to any negotiations, however, must be the United States and China. We believe that if we can get them round the same table and get the fighting stopped, fighting will not re-start."

Mr Younger said it would be wrong not to recognise the fact that the Chinese encouraged the North Koreans from the start and were now fighting alongside them against British troops.—Reuter.

More Austerity For Britons

Prime Minister's Warning

London, Jan. 30.

The Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, warned today that Britain's austerity will become more severe to guarantee enough materials and labour for the nation's big rearmament drive.

He told the House of Commons the government intends to reimpose many wartime controls to keep the new £4,700,000,000 three-year defence programme in high gear.

Mr Attlee said that "some less essential production, especially for the home market, will have to be reduced or stopped."

Meanwhile, the government announced it will offer a new high-interest defence bond to help pay for the rearmament programme.

The new bond will go on sale on Thursday. Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Gaitskell told the House of Commons. It will pay three per cent interest and will replace a current issue paying 2½ per cent.

Dealing with still another act of the arms question, Mr Attlee revealed that the old United States-British-Canadian agreement on atomic weapons has been altered but that new agreements have been entered into.

ATOMIC AGREEMENT

In response to questions from several members of Parliament, including the Conservative leader, Mr Winston Churchill, Mr Attlee said he is ready to ask Washington to take the wartime atomic agreement off the secret list.

Observers thought the government would proceed carefully with the reimposition of wartime controls. Some measures in this category, such as the direction of labour, might involve negotiations or even conflict with trade unions, sources said.

In any event one reason for no sweeping movements of British labour force could be made at this time because of the nation's shortage of buildings and homes.

Mr Attlee said, "Factory and storage space will be requisitioned where necessary."

He explained that "allocations of some raw materials have already been introduced, others will probably be necessary to

BATTALION STRENGTH

Three of the Communist strikes were in battalion strength — possibly 1,000 men in each.

The attacks pointed up a front line officer's statement that the Allied limited offensive had bumped into what appeared to be the main enemy defence line.

The Allied drive had gained as much as six miles yesterday before the advance was slowed. Associated Press correspondents said the Western front reported from the Western front that the Red attacks kicked off in the darkness.

Tough Puerto Rican fighting men beat back the sharp attack northeast of the airbase town of Suwon.

The first wave drove the Puerto Ricans from a grassy, snow-covered hill. Then the Puerto Ricans counter-attacked. As the Reds withdrew, the Puerto Ricans called in artillery and 36 shells landed squarely among the Reds, Swinton said.

SCURRIES BACK

One enemy patrol felt its way into United Nations lines seven miles north-west of Suwon but was sent scurrying back.

One of five Chinese Communist regiments which front-line officers now believe are opposing watchful United Nations troops, has been almost completely destroyed. More than 1,200 dead bodies, believed to belong to one enemy regiment, have been counted on the snow-covered slopes of the battlefield in the last five days.

Several counter-attacks on a small scale, launched by the Communists yesterday, resulted in hand-to-hand fighting three miles north-west of Suwon, but Allied forces either repulsed or contained them.

One of the attacks was launched by an estimated battalion of troops.

In the Wonju sector yesterday patrol clashes only were reported, but on the eastern front, United Nations forces were forced to withdraw from P'yongchang before attacks by an estimated enemy regiment.

On the far east coast, at Kaesong—the scene of a heavy naval bombardment — enemy battalions threw back a United

UN DECLARES CHINA AN AGGRESSOR

New AOC For Hongkong

Our Own Correspondent, London, Jan. 30. Air Commodore D. W. F. Bonham-Carter DFC has been appointed AOC in charge of Hongkong air-defences. He will take over in April from Air Commodore A. D. Davis. Air Commodore Bonham-Carter, who is 50, was a test pilot before commanding a bomber station during the war. Against the wishes of his chief, "Bomber" Harris, he insisted on taking part in "OP's" and in one of them, at the age of 43, he won the DFC.

Warships Pound Kosong As Chinese Counter-Attack

New Activity In Korea

Tokyo, Jan. 31.

The battleship Missouri and other warships today (Wednesday) opened a new bombardment along Korea's East coast.

In Western Korea, Allied forces within nine miles of Seoul came to grips with counter-attacking Chinese Reds on the seventh day of the United Nations ground offensive.

The new sea blow on the east coast began hitting Kosong, rail and highway centre 45 miles north of the 38th parallel. It was the same type of devastating attack, which for 24 hours yesterday pounded Kansong, 20 miles south of Kosong. That assault "completely neutralised" Kansong, on the same rail line and highway, the Navy announced.

South of the parallel in Western Korea, Chinese Reds hurled four counter-attacks before dawn. Two of the attacks were beaten back. Two were still in progress at last reports.

Red artillery fire fell on Allied positions nine miles northwest of Suwon. The positions are an equal distance from Seoul.

Nations Attack Launched by ROK

Enemy movement behind the lines slackened yesterday compared with the previous day's operations, aerial observers reported.

Plots identified their targets with the aid of flares and hit 14 enemy-held towns during the night.

Fifth Air Force aircraft flew about 600 sorties during the day and claimed the destruction of 45 vehicles.

Additionally, 980 buildings, housing enemy troops and supplies, were claimed to have been destroyed, or damaged. Other pilots claimed damage to two bridges, a tank, fuel and supply dumps, gun positions and railroad cars.—Associated Press and Reuter.

American "Evidence" Was Faulty

Washington, Jan. 30.

Two American military writers said today that a supposed "1950. Russian-made" tommygun brandished by Mr Warren Austin, the American delegate in the Security Council, recently, was actually made in a Korean factory.

The gun, captured in Korea, was produced by evidence that the Russians were supplying the Koreans with arms. The article, written for "Look" magazine by Garrett Underhill and Ronald Schiller, said that the gun had been sent to Mr Austin by General MacArthur's Intelligence Headquarters.

"Unfortunately," the article said, "the Russian delegate refused to look at it. Had he done so he would have discovered that it was a Korean version of the Russian gun, made in a Korean factory."

The writers attributed the mistake to "incredible ignorance of enemy weapons" in the United States Army.—Reuter.

Navies' Part In Korea War

Tokyo, Jan. 30.

United Nations Naval Forces Headquarters here claimed today that naval action had killed 24,500 North Korean and Chinese Communist troops since the Korean war began.

Ships of nine nations contributed to the overall total, Headquarters stated. Naval forces destroyed 81 aircraft, 314 artillery positions, 198 locomotives, 112 bridges, nine complete trains and 1,944 trucks and other vehicles.

The damaged 85 aircraft, 201 artillery positions, 174 locomotives and 238 bridges.—Reuter.

Overwhelming 44 To 7 Vote ARAB-ASIAN PROPOSAL REJECTED

Lake Success, Jan. 30.

The United Nations Political Committee tonight adopted a resolution to brand Communist China as an aggressor by 44 votes to seven, with seven abstentions, after the Committee had previously rejected an Asian-Arab proposal for a seven-nation conference to consider a Korean cease-fire and other Far Eastern issues.

Earlier the Committee voted 36 to 17 to bring the debate on the China question to an end, following an attempt by Russia to cause a further delay in voting on the Asian-Arab and United States resolutions.

US Delegate Warren R. Austin angrily called on the wrangling UN Political Committee today to stay in session until midnight if necessary, and vote on an American resolution branding Communist China an aggressor in Korea.

Mr Austin spoke after listening for nearly two hours to the last minute Asia-Arab and Soviet groups attempts to delay a vote.

Mr Semyon K. Tsarapkin, Soviet delegate, and Mr Mahmoud Bey Fawzi, both demanded the Committee put off a vote for at least 24 hours. They teamed in seeking delay but their reasons, as expressed in the debate, were far different.

Mr Tsarapkin put up an amendment to a resolution by the 12 Asian and Arab countries and he demanded the Committee give time for full discussions.

Mr Fawzi called for a 24-hour delay for consultations after prodding Sir Benegal N. Rau, leader of the Asian Arab bloc, to disclose officially that Red China had accepted the revised Arab-Asian resolution.

With the approval apparently assured for the US plan to tag the Chinese Reds as aggressors, Sir Benegal told the Political Committee that Peking was willing to accept the Asian-Arab proposal as a "basis" for peaceful settlement.

He also said Peking had agreed to arrange a cease fire at the first meeting of a proposed seven power conference, proposed by the 12 Asian and Arab countries.

CANADA'S POSITION

In a move to avoid a procedural wrangle over priority, the Chief US Delegate, Mr Warren R. Austin, said the United States would agree to have the Committee vote first on the Arab-Asian proposal. He called for a vote as soon as possible.

Immediately after Sir Benegal spoke, Canada's Minister for External Affairs Lester B. Pearson declared that Canada would abstain on the Asia-Arab proposal and vote for the United States resolution, provided two Lebanese amendments are adopted. Approval of the amendments appeared certain.

Britain's Sir Gladwyn Jebb announced his position would be the same as Canada's.

Sir Benegal said he had received the new information from Peking two days ago, but had not felt it necessary to disclose all of it until this afternoon. He made his statement after the Soviet delegate, Mr Semyon K. Tsarapkin, introduced important amendments to the Asia-Arab proposal.

DELAY MOVE

At the morning session of the Committee, the Soviet bloc tried unsuccessfully to delay for 24 hours a vote on the two resolutions.

Introduction of the Soviet amendments touched off a long discussion, which also tracked a vote temporarily. The Soviet bloc and some other countries insisted that the Committee permit time for a full debate on the amendments and for careful study.

The main Soviet amendment to the Asian-Arab resolution provided for a discussion of "provisional" cease-fire as the first order of business at the seven power conference, rather than a definite cease-fire. It also called for consideration of the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Korea. The amendment made no reference to the Chinese "volunteers"

Stop-Gap Aid For SE Asia

Washington, Jan. 30.

It was learned today that the Economic Co-operation Administrator, Mr William Foster, expects this week to receive authority to spend \$75,000,000 in stop-gap economic assistance to six Southeast-Asian countries.

This ready cash will enable the United States to start almost immediately programmes designed to help the Philippines, Burma, Indo-China, Thailand, and Formosa muster economic strength to resist Communism. The money would come from unspent European aid funds and would permit the ECA to launch its Southeast Asian assistance programmes without waiting for new appropriations from Congress.

President Truman promised emphasis on Southeast Asian economic aid in the foreign spending programme he will send to Congress this spring. However, even if approved immediately, these funds would not become available before July 1, when the new fiscal year begins.

Meanwhile, the administration is eager to lose no time in starting certain Southeast Asian projects. Officials said this particularly applied to the Philippines.

ECA is reported planning to put about \$15,000,000 into the Philippines almost immediately if the Republic fulfills its guarantees within the next 30 days.

The administration is obtaining its special Southeast Asian aid fund by shifting money from one pocket to another. In voting foreign assistance funds this year, Congress earmarked most for Europe but it gave the President authority to shift three per cent to other parts of the world if he saw fit.

ECA reportedly asked the Budget Bureau for permission to shift \$75,000,000 from Europe to Southeast Asia.—United Press.

16 Killed In Fire Disaster

Honolulu, Washington, Jan. 30.

A flash fire swept through a home for the aged here today, killing 16 of 30 patients.

Eleven died as they fought to escape down the inside stairway from the second floor. The rambling frame structure, on the outskirts of this Western Washington city, became a flaming pyre within minutes.

Fourteen bodies were removed from the ruins. Two patients died of burns. Nine others were in hospital, six in critical condition.—United Press.

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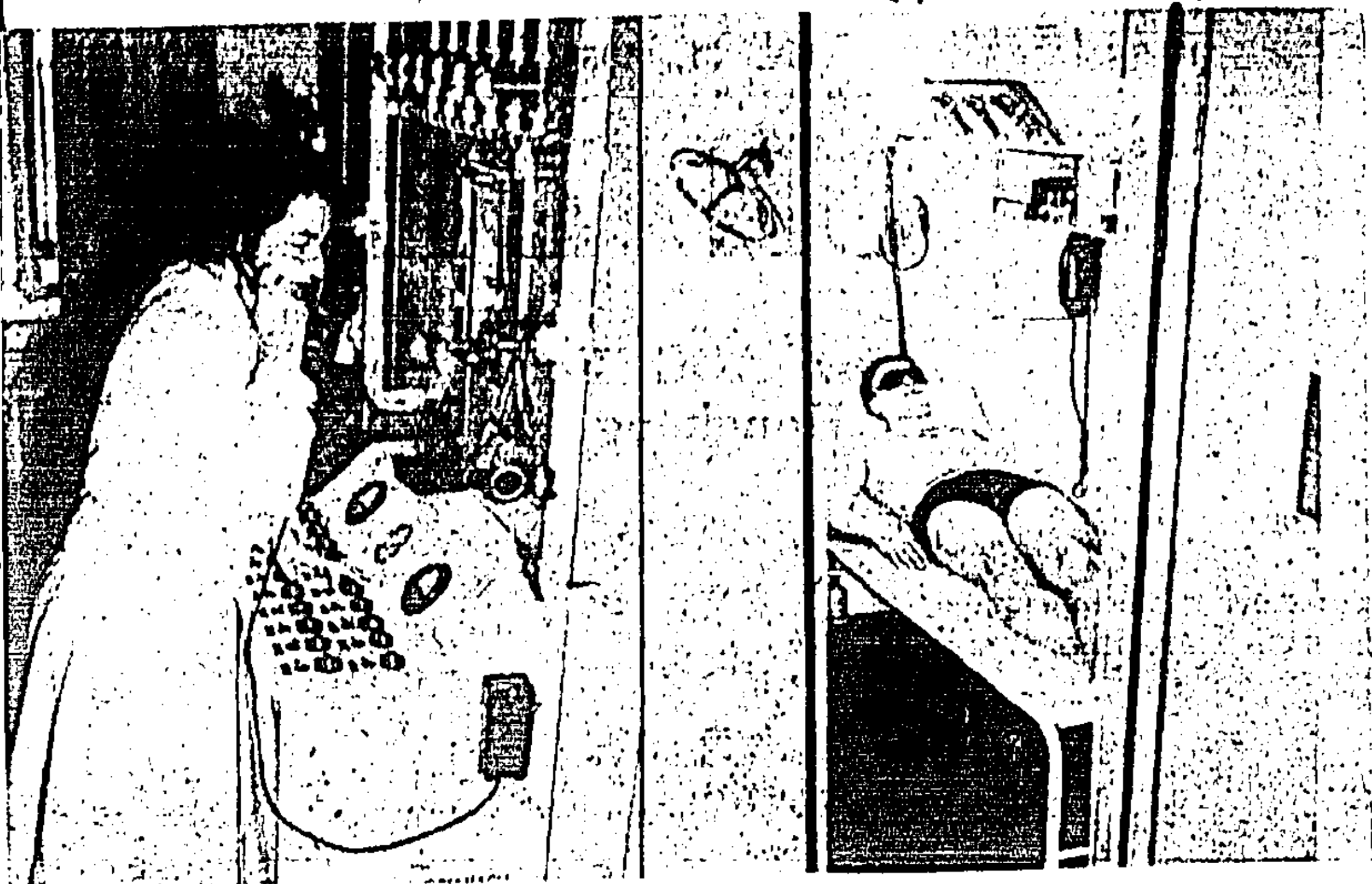
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Getting His Climate Over The Phone



SAVINGS DRIVE IN BRITAIN

London, Jan. 30.
The Government began a
big new savings drive today,
announcing a new issue of
defence bonds and savings
certificates carrying a
higher rate of interest.

Mr Hugh Gaitskell, the Chan-
cellor of the Exchequer, told
the House of Commons that
these would carry interest at
the rate of three percent in-
stead of two and a half at the
end of 10 years.

The new savings certificates
will cost 15 shillings and in-
crease to 20/3d. in 10 years—
equivalent to interest at the
rate of £3-11-0 compared with
£2-13-2 on the current cer-
tificates.

The current issues of cer-
tificates and bonds will be
withdrawn from tomorrow.
The new ones will be on sale
on Thursday.

Mr Gaitskell said that re-
armament made it all the more
necessary for the greatest
volume possible of savings.
He urged the public to buy
the certificates in large
quantities.—Reuter.

Seagrave Appeal Rejected

Rangoon, Jan. 30.
The Burmese Supreme Court
on Tuesday rejected an applica-
tion by the American missionary
doctor, Gordon Seagrave, for
release on bail pending appeal
from his sentence of six years
hard labour.—United Press.

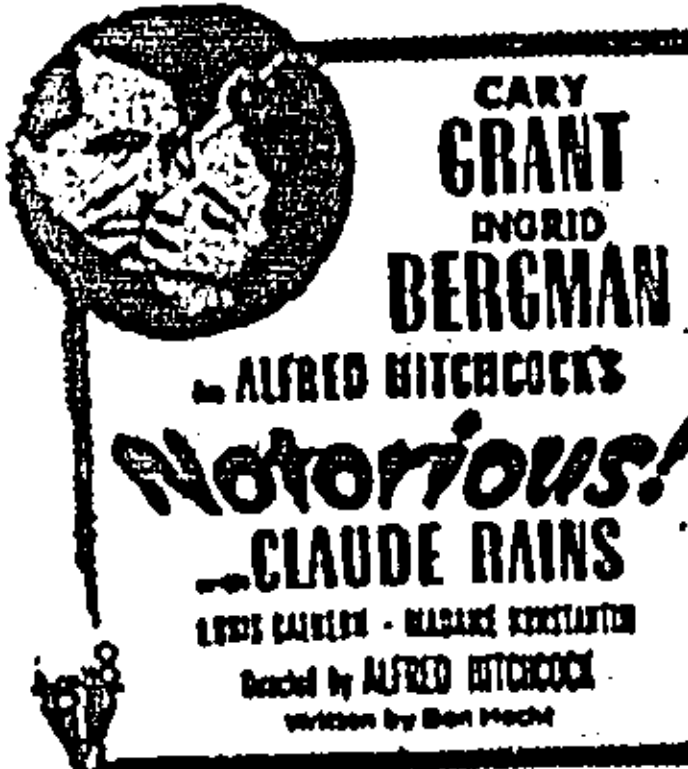
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quired climate can be ob-
tained in a matter of
seconds. Here an assist-
ant can be seen talking
by telephone to a patient
in the "Climate Cell" as
she operates the controls.
—London Express Ser-
vice.

Cold Wave Lashing America

New York, Jan. 30.
More than 20 people died
here in America's worst
cold wave of the winter.

The deaths were due to ac-
cidents on icy roads, exposure
to cold, falls on ice and sleigh-
ing accidents. Hundreds suffered
injuries.

The Weather Bureau held
out little prospect of immediate
relief from the cold.
Most of the United States
was lashed today by the cold
weather. A bitter wave crip-
pled the central part of the
country and it was warmer near
the Arctic Circle in Canada
than in many parts of the mid-
continent.

For the second day in suc-
cession temperatures dropped
below zero in the Mid-West.
One reading was 43 degrees be-
low zero Centigrade. Tempera-
tures were below freezing all
the way to the Rio Grande
Valley.

The cold threatened citrus
and vegetables in the rich
agricultural regions of the
country.

There was a mounting death
toll attributed to the cold and
icy weather. Communications
were disrupted in some areas
because of ice-coated power
lines.—Reuter.

Malay Regiment Increases

London, Jan. 30.
Britain is prepared to meet
the cost of raising two further
battalions of the Malay Regi-
ment, the War Minister, Mr
John Strachey, told the House
of Commons today.

Brigadier Austin Low, Con-
servative, had asked how
many battalions there were
and how many British officers
and men were serving with
them.

Mr Strachey added that four
battalions of the Malay Regi-
ment had already been formed,
with 180 to 200 British officers
and men. "I saw some of these
battalions when I was in
Malaya and I formed a high
view of the British officers
serving with them," he said.
—Reuter.

American-Japanese Defence

Alliance May Be Discussed

Tokyo, Jan. 30.

The possibility of an American-Japanese de-
fence alliance is expected to be discussed by the
Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Shigeru Yoshida,
with Mr John Foster Dulles, the United States
special Presidential envoy to Japan, and the other
members of the American peace mission, the news-
paper Mainichi Shimbun said today.

Mr Yoshida conferred with Mr Dulles, who is
visiting Tokyo as President Truman's envoy to
sort out peace treaty problems, and is expected to
take up the pact question at subsequent meetings.

Dismissed As Utter Fantasy

Paris, Jan. 30.

A French Foreign Office
spokesman today dismiss-
ed as "utter fantasy" re-
ports that Russia would
propose non-aggression
pacts to France and Italy.

French Foreign Office
quarters thought that
these rumours, current for
some time in Northern
Italy, had emanated from
the Communist-sponsored
Milan Partisans of Peace
and were all part of a
Communist attempt to
divide the nations of Wes-
tern Europe.—Reuter.

French Reds Playing Part In Indo-China

Hanoi, Jan. 30.

French Communists have
taken over at least partial direc-
tion of the rebel Vietminh
activities in Indo-China, pro-
French Vietnamese reported on
Tuesday.

Informed sources said a
clandestine radio station of the
Communist-led Vietminh in the
Saigon area was now being
directed by the French Com-
munist party, and expressed
anxiety that this develop-
ment was linked with a possible
rebel push in Cochinchina. The
development was probably the
result of communications diffi-
culties between the headquar-
ters of rebel leader Ho Chi-
minh in Tonkin, in the north,
and the Saigon area.

These sources said the once
easy communications lines be-
tween the Vietminh rebels in
the south and the Vietminh
"consulates" in Bangkok and
Rangoon were becoming more
difficult.

The recent appointment of
Pham Goc-thach as Vietminh
chief in the Saigon area was
described as further indication
of the increased rebel effort
there.

Pham, who holds ministerial
rank in Ho Chi-minh's govern-
ment, was negotiator for the
Vietminh with the British over
Vietnam forces in Cochinchina
in 1946. He is considered a
member of the "French school"
of the Indo-Chinese Communist
party, as opposed to the "Chinese
school."

These sources said Pham's
choice for this post despite the
fact that the Saigon suburb of
Cholon is the largest Chinese
population in Indo-China, in-
dicated co-operation between
the Vietminh and French Com-
munists.—United Press.

Europe More Important Than Asia

New York, Jan. 30.

The American Institute of
Public Opinion reported today
that nearly half of all Ameri-
cans surveyed in a "Gallup
poll" believe protecting Europe
from "falling under Russian
control" is more important than
protecting Asia. The Institute
said only nine percent believed
Asia should have priority,
while 48 percent favoured
Europe. The remainder be-
lieved both were equally im-
portant or had no opinion.

Director George Gallup com-
mented: "Since November, when
the fighting hordes of Red
China entered the Korean war,
many Americans may have
come to feel that Europe rather
than Asia offers a battlefield
better suited to us as an air
and naval power." —United
Press.

Bevin Better

London, Jan. 30.

The Foreign Secretary, Mr
Ernest Bevin, who is ill with
pneumonia on one lung, con-
tinues to make good progress,
it was announced tonight. He
is nearly 70.—Reuter.

New Methods Needed In Germany

Frankfurt, Jan. 30.

Sir Ivone Kirkpatrick, the
British High Commissioner, said
here today that the Germans
must be treated as partners
with the West but this required
an effort of will on both sides,
"though most of the efforts
must come from us."

Addressing the Frankfurt
Press Club, Sir Ivone said he
was very impressed by General
Dwight Eisenhower's desire to
strengthen the Atlantic forces
and make them a veritable
strength to the West.

This would do more than any-
thing to assure the Germans of
Allied determination. "We must
strengthen the West and much
of the German doubts and diffi-
culties will remove themselves,"
he said.

Sir Ivone said that treating
the Germans as partners meant
a change "in our approach as
well as theirs." "In the next
couple of months we must show
the Germans that we are honest
when we say that we want a
partnership on an equal footing."

But the Germans must give up
their "resentments" about dis-
mantling and war criminals.
—Reuter.

Red MP's Tender Resignation

Rome, Jan. 30.

Two Communist deputies
tendered their resignations to
the President of the Italian
Lower Chamber today after
breaking with their Party
which, they said, was subor-
dinate to Russian directives.

The deputies, Signor Valdo
Magnani, and Signor Aldo Cu-
comi, submitted their resigna-
tions in letters to the Christian
Democrat President, Signor Gio-
vanni Gronchi, from places of
hiding.

The overwhelmingly Christian
Democrat Chamber, which must
vote on the issue, is expected to
refuse to accept their decision.
—Reuter.

Car Designer Dead

Stuttgart, Jan. 30.

Austrian-born Professor Fer-
dinand Porsche, the designer of
the German Volkswagen, died
here today, aged 75. He suf-
fered a stroke 10 days ago and
his condition was aggravated by
pneumonia. His body will be
taken to Austria for burial.
—Reuter.

Rhodesian Dispute Over Reform

Lusaka, Northern Rhodesia,
Jan. 30.

The unanimity with which
African organisations in
Northern Rhodesia passed
resolutions during the past
week on constitutional re-
form and the proposed Cen-
tral African Federation is
believed to be causing con-
cern to the Government of
the Colony, it was under-
stood today.

The resolutions marked a
critical week in the Colony's
constitutional history, which
culminated on Saturday with
the resignation of Sir Stewart
Gore-Brown, the senior nomi-
nated Member for native inter-
ests, from the Northern Rhodesian
Government.

Sir Stewart said he was "get-
ting out before the bricks start
flying" adding that "the future
is fraught with frustration."
He said that there was a
possibility of tension arising be-
tween the demands of elected
Members of the Legislative
Council for more portfolios and
Africans' insistence on increased
representation.

One of the resolutions passed
by the African Federation of Northern
Rhodesia and Nyasaland—which is to
be discussed at a conference in
London opening on March 5—
on the ground that no scheme
had been produced satisfying
the legitimate aspirations of
the Africans.

These resolutions were in
line with those adopted last
week by the Northern Rhode-
sian African Congress, an in-
fluential African political body
with powerful leaders.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
The African Representative
Council asked that African re-
presentatives in the Legislative
Council be increased from the
present two to eight, in addi-
tion to the two Europeans re-
presenting African interests.

The Council has at present
constituted has nine Official
Members nominated by the
Government, 10 Unofficial Mem-
bers elected by the European
population, two nominated
European Unofficial Members
representing African interests,
and two Africans nominated by
the African Representative
Council.

An African Congress resolu-
tion called for the cancellation
of the forthcoming Federation
talks in London, and for a de-
legation to see the Secretary of
State for the Colonies, Mr
James Griffiths.

African leaders said on public
platforms in Lusaka last week
that the Government's declared
policy of partnership between
Africans and Europeans meant
at best a junior partnership
for the Africans.—Reuter.

Benghazi Hotel Explosion

Benghazi, Jan. 30.

An explosion took place late
last night outside the Vienna
Hotel here, where the leader of
the Tripoli National Congress
Party, Beshir Bay Sardawi, was
staying.

There were no casualties and
little damage was done. Beshir
Bay is on his way to Cairo to
lead a delegation against the
United Nations plan for the
federation of Tripolitania, the
Fezzan and Cyrenaica into one
State.—Reuter.

Escapees Turned Cannibal

Caracas, Jan. 30.

Reports from Ciudad Bolivar
today said four starving escaped
prisoners from mobile penal
camps in Southeastern Venezuela
roasted and ate a fifth member
of their group, then surrendered.
The reports said the fugitives
confessed their cannibalism to
the authorities at El Dorado and
added that the men lived two
days on leaves and water before
"liquidating" their companion.—
United Press.

Bikini Ship Sunk

San Francisco, Jan. 30.

The Navy said today that the
10,000-ton carrier Independence,
used as a target ship at Bikini,
was sunk at sea on Friday.—
United Press.

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN





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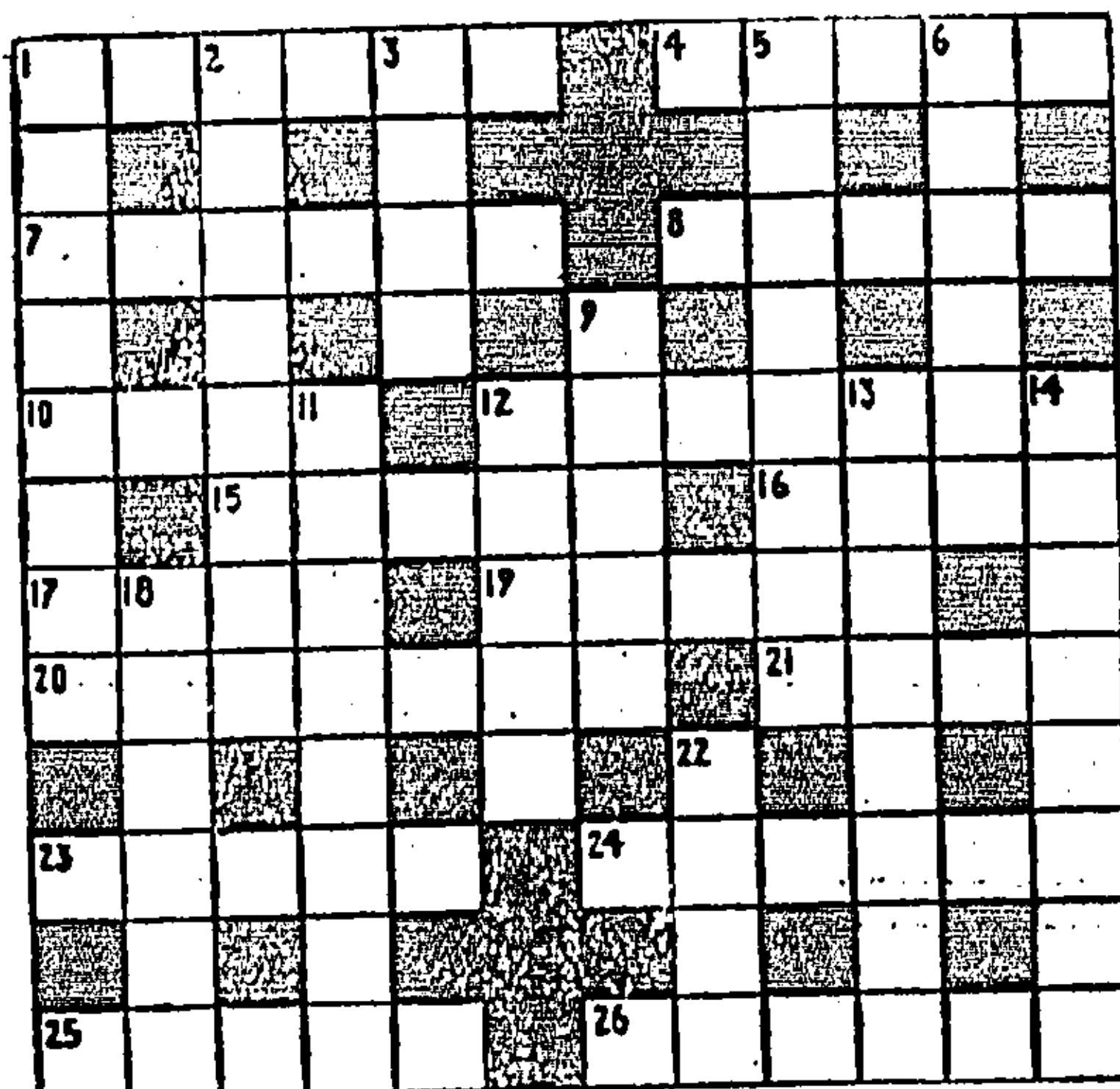


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ADDED ATTRACTION

"DANCING GIRL OF ALL NATIONS"

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

DOWN

- 1 Rambled.
- 4 Proficient.
- 7 Timber.
- 8 Representative.
- 10 Indian coin.
- 12 Consolated.
- 15 Details.
- 16 Vetch.
- 17 Endure.
- 19 Moving.
- 20 Heigh-ton.
- 21 Small bay.
- 23 Show off.
- 24 Ship's officer.
- 25 Degree.
- 26 Unemotional.

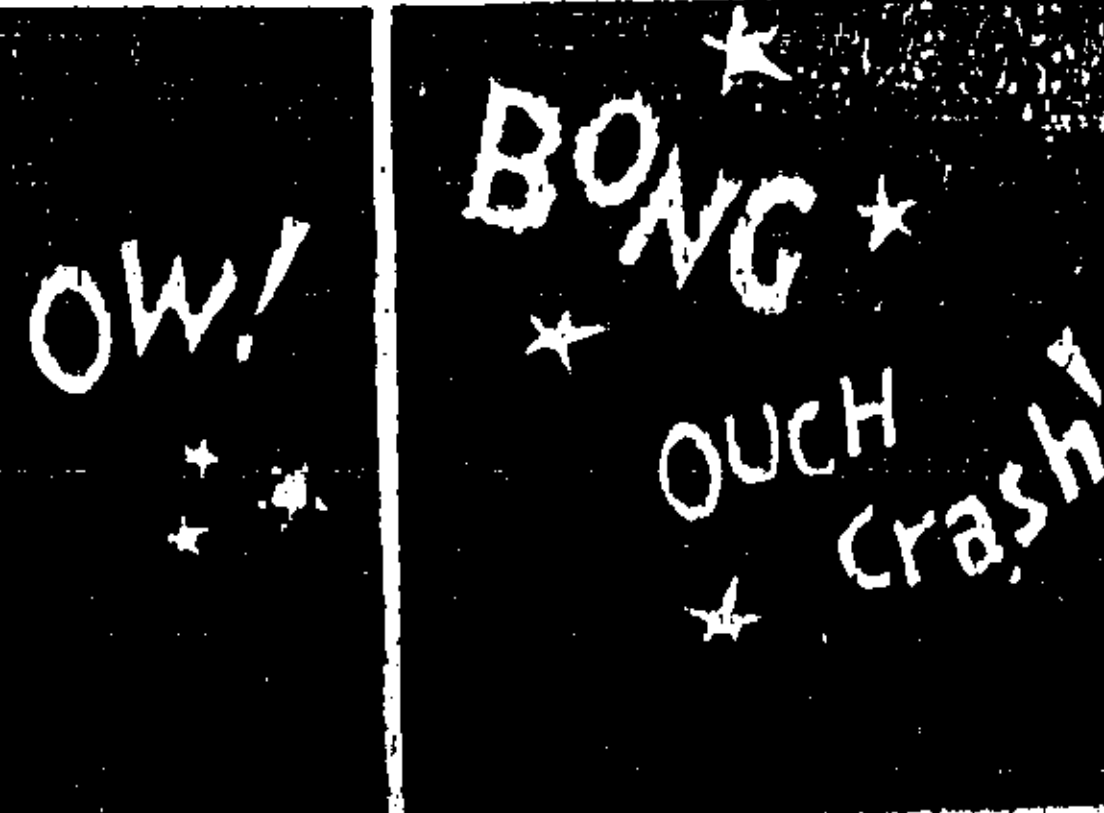
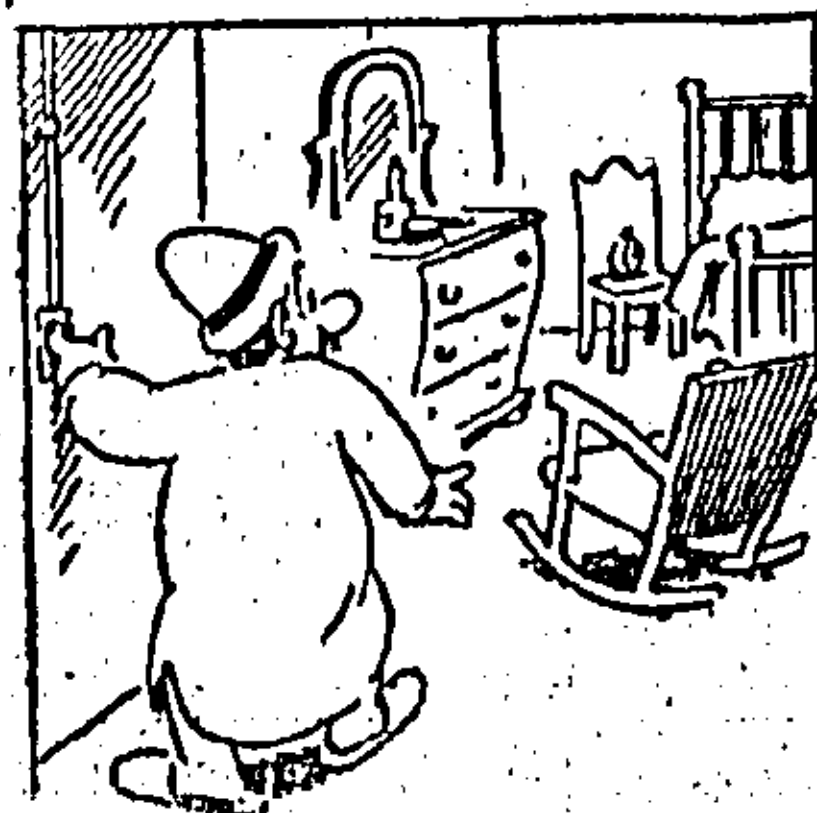
- 1 Trustworthy.
- 2 Reprove.
- 3 Level.
- 5 Asserting positively.
- 6 Meditate.
- 9 Sheriff's escort.
- 11 Reached.
- 12 Fishing vessel.
- 13 Tinsel.
- 14 Delayed.
- 18 Reply.
- 22 Cluster.

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 3 Accepted, 8 Rabble, 9 Admiring, 11 Discreet, 12 Mess, 13 Remit, 16 Dates, 19 Loot, 22 Complete, 24 Corporal, 25 Settle, 26 Distress. Down: 1 Crude, 2 Abused, 3 Alarmed, 4 Code, 5 Emit, 6 Told, 7 Digest, 10 Merit, 14 Major, 15 Temples, 16 Placid, 17 Boards, 20 Petty, 21 Bevel, 22 Coir, 23 Mace.

FERD'NAND

Oh Rockin' Chair Got 'Im

By Milk



Fall From 23rd Floor

New York, Jan. 30. The famous dealer in relics of ancient civilisation, 83-year-old Dikram Kellekian, today fell or jumped from a window on the 23rd floor of the fashionable St. Moritz Hotel, where he had lived for 16 years.

Kellekian was an authority on archaeological discoveries and also a pioneer in introducing the French mode of painting to the United States.—United Press.

Congress Doubtful Over India

Washington, Jan. 30. Informed sources today predicted that the administration within a week would send Congress a formal request to give India \$200,000,000 to buy wheat and other grain here. They said State Department officials were working out final details.

While India requested "extended credit" of about \$200,000,000 to buy 2,000,000 tons for famine relief, State Department officials are reported to have decided it would be better to ask Congress to vote an outright gift of that amount. The Department is understood to believe that India, with her indebtedness to the International Bank and her other dollar obligations, cannot be expected to mortgaze additional loans in anything like a reasonable period.

The mood of Congress is admitted to be a questionable factor now. Many Congressmen are willing to say privately that they favour the gift of grain to India on "humanitarian" grounds, but would be forced to oppose it on political grounds. They say their constituents, many of whom have relatives fighting in Korea, are opposed to any aid to New Delhi as long as the Prime Minister, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, continues to advocate trying to negotiate with the Chinese Communists.—United Press.

Storm Havoc In Algeria

Algiers, Jan. 30.

A storm which swept Algeria and the Western Mediterranean, killing three people and almost completely destroying the small fishing port of Chiffa, appeared to be blowing itself out today.

Fishing boats and seaside huts were wrecked all along the Algerian coast. A child was swept away by the flooded river Mazafran and two Algerian seamen were washed overboard from the cargo steamer Finis, north of the Balearic Islands.

The Turkish steamer Emin was driven ashore and wrecked at Oran without loss of life.

Part of a school being built at Blida collapsed, and the main roads from Algiers to Rouan and Bougie were hit heavily by the floods and many places in Algiers were without electricity today.—Reuter.

No Clue On Dutch Govt

The Hague, Jan. 30.

Dr Dirk Slikker, the Foreign Minister in the Dutch Government which resigned last week, went to Soestdijk Palace today to report to Queen Juliana on his efforts to form a new Cabinet.

He gave no indication that he had succeeded in his task, but it was assumed that if he had, he would formally be charged by the Queen to go ahead.

Observers believed that if Dr Slikker succeeded, he would have his Cabinet on his main planks—defence, finance, economic affairs and New Guinea.—Reuter.

500th Anniversary Of Columbus

Genoa, Jan. 30.

Envoys from 16 countries gathered here today for the 500th anniversary of the birth of Christopher Columbus. He was born here in 1451 and sailed to America in 1492.

Genoa's celebrations will go on all through the year.—Reuter.

FRENCH PREMIER MAKES PLEDGE TO FIGHT REDS

Washington, Jan. 30.

The French Premier, M. Rene Pleven, in a speech today said France will stand side by side with the United States against Communism as "your ally and not just a fair weather friend."

He told a National Press Club luncheon: "We are allies, and we will remain allies. We will not let anything—I say anything—weaken the alliance that binds us together."

M. Pleven, here for a world review with President Truman, said his country was aiming at a regular army of 900,000 men as soon as they can be armed, plus another 900,000 in reserve divisions to throw into the defence of the West if war comes.

He did not say when this goal will be reached. But he called for "utmost speed" in the drive to create a unified Western army and weld together the economies of the North Atlantic pact countries into a bulwark against any aggression by Soviet Russia.

His promise to stand firm goes, M. Pleven said, for "any action or threat of action from within or without."

With reference to France's domestic troubles with Communism, he said French Communist efforts had failed on all counts.

M. Pleven expressed doubt that there are ten "defeatists" among the 600 members of the French Chamber of Deputies. He added firmly: "And I am sure they will disappear into thin air when the French army is rebuilt and strong and stands side by side with American and British troops in sufficient numbers ready for the first battles should aggression occur."

On Wednesday, General Dwight Eisenhower, commander of the unified European army, returns here with his own estimate of what Europe can do to defend itself.

COLD DETERMINATION
In his speech, M. Pleven repeatedly stressed France's "cold determination" to face "all its responsibilities and dangers" in the present threat of a Communist blow westward. "I do not say there will not be differences of opinion or disagreements between us, I do say—and I want this clearly understood by any group that may be plotting against us—we will never allow these differences of opinion or disagreements to break or ruin the ties that unite our two countries."

He said France has swallowed its old enmity with Germany, and now believes peace is only possible with a "democratic Germany" as "an integral part of a strong and prosperous Western Europe."

He said France's own Communists "failed" in efforts to disrupt the country, and their demonstrations against General Eisenhower were a "total fiasco."

He said the economy of Europe was "still fragile" and any fresh inflation "would destroy it beyond hope of recovery." He said the fight to stop inflation must be a "fundamental preoccupation" of the Atlantic alliance.

INDO-CHINA BURDEN
M. Pleven reviewed the events in Indo-China and the cost in money and in dead which this meant to the French people.

He said the French people said, "We hope that we can lighten this burden and employ our strength to greater effect in Western Europe, which is, for all of us, the main front. But this will be possible only when peace has come to Asia and peoples of Indo-China are able to assure their own security against Communist forces."

M. Pleven said that it was in a spirit of doing the highest duty "maintenance of unity"—that France accepted the compromise plan providing for a German contribution to Western defence.

Frenchmen wished to build a united Europe, he added, "but we must first build up the two fundamental pillars of this federation: the Schuman Plan and the European army."

Out of this will come the greater understanding of the French and German peoples.

COMPLETE ACCORD
After a 90-minute talk on Tuesday morning M. Pleven and President Truman announced they found themselves in "complete accord" on questions of European unity and the defence programme under the North Atlantic treaty.

A brief White House statement said the discussion was

PEKING TACTICS IN FIELD

Central Front in Korea, Jan. 30.

A diary found on the body of a Chinese Communist officer slain in battle revealed today the Chinese theory of fighting the American machine with superior numbers of foot soldiers.

It said "We can defeat the Americans because they always travel in columns. If we avoid contact until the Americans hit our reserves in our rear, we can envelop and destroy the American column with our force." The contents of the diary were disclosed by a top American intelligence officer.

He said the Chinese statement was nothing to worry about, because for every type of warfare there is a counter-measure.

He believed the Chinese had retired behind the screen of North Koreans to prepare a new attack. He added, "But they are in no hurry. They are not planning to be home by Christmas, so they will prepare their next offensive and then wait for us to come up and take delivery."

The Americans are furious and impulsive—that we will attack again. And they will use their famed Oriental patience and wait for us. They don't plan to beat their heads against prepared defensive positions."—United Press.

Tokyo Post For Iguchi

Tokyo, Jan. 30.

The veteran diplomat, Mr. Sadao Iguchi, today replaced Mr. Ichiro Ohta as the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The 52-year-old diplomat served in the United States, Britain and China before the war and held a high post in the Government Board of Information during the war.

For his wartime activities the new Vice-Minister was purged from public office in August, 1948, but was reinstated last October.—Reuter.

Fishing Rights Agreement

London, Jan. 30.

Britain and France today signed an agreement on fishing rights on the Ecorehou and Minquiers Islands, which lie between France and the Channel Island of Jersey, the Foreign Office announced.

The fishing off the islands has been disputed by Jersey and Breton fishermen since the last war, when the islands were occupied by Germany.—Reuter.

Indians Remember

Teheran, Jan. 30.

Indians in Teheran gathered in the Indian Embassy today to observe the third anniversary of the death of Mahatma Gandhi.

The meeting began with a short speech by the Indian Minister, Mr. B. K. Kapur, paying homage to Gandhi's memory. This was followed by a two-minute silence and the singing of devotional songs.—Reuter.

SHOWING



AT 2.30, 5.15,
7.20 & 9.30
P.M.

TO-DAY

LEARN ABOUT TWO-TIMING LOVE IN CAFE SOCIETY



Barbara Stanwyck, James Mason, Helen Gardner, East Side, West Side

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Warner Bros. Presents

NEXT! "THIS SIDE OF THE LAW"

Change! Vivica Lindfors — Kent Smith

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P.M.

TO-DAY

HELD OVER!!

JOHN WAYNE

KING OF THE SCREEN!

THE FIGHTING KENTUCKIAN

Vera Ralston, Philip Hahn, Oliver Hardy

A John Wayne Production

A Republic Picture

George Brent, Lynn Bari in

NEXT! "The Kid from Cleveland"

SHOWING
TO-DAY



AT 2.30, 5.15,
7.20 & 9.30
P.M.



ADDED: Latest Universal-International Newsreel

SHOWING
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AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30
& 9.30 P.M.

J. ARTHUR RANK PRESENTS

Mail Robert Guy ZETTERLING BEATTY ROLFE in

Portrait from Life

By David Green, Directed by Thomas Fisher

Screenplay by Frank Harvey Jr. and Stuart and Sydney Kay, Produced by Arthur Cohn

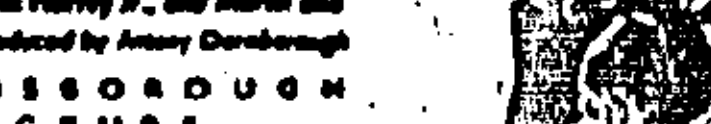
A COLUMBIA PICTURE

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NEXT CHANGE: Broderick CRAWFORD • Ellen DREW

in "CARGO TO CAPETOWN" A Columbia Picture.

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At 2.30, 5.30,
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TO-DAY

SEE BETTY GRABLE DO "THE SHIMMIES!"

THE GIRLS ARE THE STUNNINGEST!

THE TUNES ARE THE HUMMINGEST!

THE FIRST LADY OF RHYTHM AND ROLL!!!

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WABASH AVENUE

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REGINALD GARDNER • JAMES BARTON • Directed by HEINRY KOSTER • Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG

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CHANGE! "CARGO TO CAPETOWN"

SPECIAL
TIMES
TO-DAY



At 2.30, 5.00,
7.15 & 9.30
P.M.

JAP SAVAGERY AVENGED!

HARRY CAREY-KELLY

"CHINA'S LITTLE DEVILS"

DUCKY LOUIE

HAYWARD SOO HOO

JIMMY DODD

A MONOGRAM PICTURE

TO-DAY



AT 2.30, 5.30,
7.30 & 9.30
P.M.

ONLY

FIRST SHOWING IN HONGKONG

"MISSION A TANGER"

A French Picture.

TO-MORROW: "LES DEMONS DE L'AUBE"

French Picture

George Brent, Lynn Bari in

NEXT! "The Kid from Cleveland"

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BY APPOINTMENT
TO HIS MAJESTY THE KING

SUPER VIRGINIA CIGARETTES
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BENSON and HEDGES
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"Dinner will be a little late today, dear."

London Express Service

Sitting on the Fence....

by NATHANIEL GUBBINS

DRAW the curtains closer, Jane. More logs on the fire. Is that sleet or is it rain? The wind is rising higher. Have the evening papers come? Thank you, Mrs Grunty. "Fuel Cuts in Every Home" Goodness, what a country.

What's for dinner, Mary Jane? Mrs Grunty's starving. Not that curried beef again? Cooked-up meat is always hard (Death to Mrs Grunty) "A shilling's worth a Ration Card" Goodness, what a country.

A glass of sherry, Mary Jane. More blankets on my bed. A pill for Mrs Grunty's pain. A cushion for her head. I think a little tempting dish. Is best for Mrs Grunty. "Higher Prices Now For Fish" Goodness, what a country.

Shall I poke the fire, dear? Dinner won't be long. I'll read the news about Korea. Waiting for the gong. "They dig their foxholes in the snow" (Listen Mrs Grunty) "They fight in twenty-four below" Goodness, what a country.

Forward glance

"Movos are under way in high quarters to review positions on... of the chief German war criminals." From the news. "If formed, the new German army will be given only light weapons." Also from the news.

IN the following conversation between The Kind Uncle and The Naughty Boy, The Kind Uncle represents Britain and America. The Naughty Boy represents Western Germany.

★ ★ ★

How would you like to play at soldiers again, sonny? Of der playing at soldiers I am tired. You wouldn't like a little gun that goes bang, bang, bang? If I at der soldiers play I also must haf der big gun dot go boom, boom, boom.

But you can't have big guns yet, son. Remember, you've been very naughty. What about a little machine gun that goes tat-tat-tat?

I will not at der soldiers play unless I have der big gun dot go boom, boom. Nor will I at der sailors play unless I have der big ship mit der big gun dot also go boom, boom.

Nobody asked you to play at sailors, son. You'll be wanting to play at airmen next.

If I at der airmen play I will haf der bomb dot go whe-ee-ee-crash-rubble-rubble.

Listen, son. How would you like to see some of your naughty little friends again, like Sonny Rueder and Sonny Doenitz and Funk and Speer and that funny little chap Hess?

Very much would I like to see mein liddle friends again.

All right, then. Suppose I let them off the rest of their lines and let bygones be bygones? Will you play at soldiers then?

Ja, ja. If mein liddle friends I again see we will together at der soldiers, der sailors and der airmen play, mit der liddle guns dot go bang, bang, der liddle machine guns dot go tat-tat-tat, der big guns dot go boom, boom, and der bombs dot go whe-ee-crash-rubble-rubble.

The Sparrows

IN The Sparrow's Nest, The Sparrow's wife was lying in their little bed, crying. A tear trembled on the tip of her swollen, red beak, protruding from the doll's house blanket. The Sparrow, reading a little bit of newspaper by the fire, glared at her.

"All this fuss about a headache," said The Sparrow. "You ought to try a hangover and see what that's like."

"I think I've got the flu," said his wife.

"More likely fowl pest," said The Sparrow.

"Oh, how could you say such an awful thing," said his wife. "Fowl pest. Fancy."

"You've got all the symptoms," said The Sparrow. "Watery eyes, running beak,

dingy feathers and depression. According to the latest figures, 83,000 birds have been slaughtered up to date."

"Oh, how dreadful," said his wife, hiding her head in the pillows. "The poor things."

"They're probably better out of their misery," said The Sparrow. "In some parts of the country they're burning them."

"Not alive?" screamed his wife, sitting up in bed.

"They did it to Joan of Arc," said The Sparrow.

"What's Joan of Arc got to do with it?"

"I don't see why they shouldn't do it to you. But you needn't worry. They're only burning the boddies. How are your legs?"

"Weak and trembly."

"Ah," said The Sparrow. "Another symptom. According to this report, birds with fowl pest stagger about as if drunk and then collapse. I think I'd better go for the doctor."

MALENKOV, one of the Soviet Big Five, has flown to Peking with Marshal Malinovsky, Russian Commander-in-Chief in the Far East.

Manulsky, a veteran Communist, is with them.

They will hold conferences with Mao Tse-tung and Asian Communist leaders on the anti-Western Spring programme.

The Chinese will enthroned the Panchen Lama as ruler of Tibet.

Chinese agents are filtering into the Ladakh province of Kashmir, which is marked as

I pin my hopes in the Valley of Adventure

HE is as good-looking as a lion, lithe as a cat. And he is on the sunny side of 60.

He says, speaking of a friend: "He's a grand chap, that, but he's getting to be old. Of course, he's younger than me."

He is impatient and impetuous, with a gockeful of sweets for the children and a saucy glance for the girls. He curses his moon, and they'll work overtime for him.

His name is Valdi. He was a Hungarian soldier in the First World War. ("Wrong side, it turned out," he says cheerfully.) Now Valdi is an engineer.

He builds bridges and dams. And he has built these useful things from Murmansk to Teheran, and from the Nile to the Ganges.

At present he is busy building both in the Damodar Valley, India. Damodar River rises in the 4,000-ft mountains of Bihar Province, a couple of hundred miles west of Calcutta.

It tumbles, or rolls, or lazes, 300 miles itself before it merges into the majestic Hooghly, India's own Father Thames. Meantime, this Damodar River

is the very Devil in a Land a third the size of Wales.

It's a devil, because it floods (and has drowned, only seven years ago) its entire valley. Thousands of people were choked in the rising waters, and scores of thousands of their beasts.

It's a devil, because, when that ol' river piles itself up, it washes away uncounted masses of tons of priceless, irreplaceable soil, leaving, after a sea, a desert.

It is night, and we are still on the high, kingly hills, this inexhaustible Hungarian and me.

Far away below us we can see a red glow across the plain. They are smelting, steel down there in Tatanagar, to build more bridges and more dams, to span more valleys and hold more water. To bring more bounty to the land, and more food to the hungry families of India.

Tractors are tearing around in the light of their own giant headlights.

They are ploughing up the land according to a carefully worked out contour plan, designed to hold the rain when it falls, and make it also pay its proper toll to the soil before it seeps into the rivers to run to the sea.

Thus, while the engineers drown some part of the land they will save infinitely more.

Yes, it is a great adventure to be in Damodar Valley, India, either by day or by night.

For here, old Valdi, that youthful dynamo of 58, may be setting up the prototype which is going to help India to win her most splendid victories of peace.

Nobody has ever doubted her superb capacity in war.

—(London Express Service)

Exciting...

And it is backed by the personal experience of some of the leading engineers of that fine, imaginative social experiment.

Come away from the sprawling slum of Calcutta, which is still one of the ten greatest cities in the world.

On the hills of Orissa, above the Damodar, almost as near to Calcutta as Wales is to London, you can see a valiant and inspiring effort being made to build a finer India.

It is pale, gleaming dawn. And already 3,000 people—men, women and children, for all must work in Poor India—are toiling on the Konar Dam.

This vast earthen and concrete wall of two and a half miles spans the valley of the Konar River, which runs into Damodar. When built, it will deliver cooling water to a huge thermal power plant at Bokaro.

—(London Express Service)

Prices of zinc, copper and brass scrap are to be controlled shortly to stop profiteering.

Shortage of packing materials, particularly waterproof paper, is worrying British exporters. They fear shipping delays.

The British Colonial Development Corporation has flown experts to British Honduras to take over a big cattle ranch.

It will raise cattle in Swaziland as well in a plan to make Britain less dependent on Argentine beef.

Greece and Turkey expect visits from General Eisenhower to discuss Mediterranean defence.

RAF pilots training in Britain are flying at speeds faster than pound in American Sabre jet fighters.

Large wool shipments are leaving Australia for Odessa to increase Russian stocks. The U.S. and Britain are perturbed.

Britain and the U.S. will invest in the Spanish mining industry, which is suffering from lack of equipment.

The armed forces of Bulgaria, Hungary and Rumania are nearly three times as large as permitted by the 1947 peace treaties.

A U.S. observer team has reported to Washington that U. N. infantry in Korea need more light automatic weapons.

Meantime, it will submerge an area larger than London.

Valdi introduces me to the Indian engineer in charge of the job, Rao Sahib. His ancestors were granted vast estates 300 years ago for some tough military service to the Mogul emperors of India.

"Oh, we plundered the land all right," says Rao Sahib, genially. And he reckons it is fair that he should now be helping to restore its bounty.

It is blinding noon. The sun pours down without pity from a baked blue sky, and Valdi is showing me what he and his men did to two other mountains.

They made them into one—and captured the roaring gurgling river that ran between. Now it will irrigate a plain.

It is evening. And we are looking at the last dam. It will send electric light and power to Tatanagar, where 30,000 men are working night and day in the greatest single steel plant in the world. To do this Valdi's boys pushed a river a mile out of its course, and trained that too.

It is night, and we are still on the high, kingly hills, this inexhaustible Hungarian and me.

Far away below us we can see a red glow across the plain. They are smelting, steel down there in Tatanagar, to build more bridges and more dams, to span more valleys and hold more water. To bring more bounty to the land, and more food to the hungry families of India.

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Nobody has ever doubted her superb capacity in war.

—(London Express Service)

INSIDE INFORMATION

By MERCURY

part of China in new Peking maps.

A U.S. loan and a plebiscite to decide Afghan claims on Pakistan territory are the aims of the Premier of Afghanistan.

Ministry officials will be given powers to inspect scrap-yards to prevent hoarding that might retard defence work.

The British Colonial Development Corporation has flown experts to British Honduras to take over a big cattle ranch.

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They will hold conferences with Mao Tse-tung and Asian Communist leaders on the anti-Western Spring programme.

Afghanistan also wants a corridor to the sea through Pakistan. India supports her claims.

The British Government are considering increases in the rates of interest on National Savings Certificates, Post Office savings, Trustee savings bank accounts and Defence bonds. This would assist a big savings campaign for rearmament.

The British Colonial Development Corporation has flown experts to British Honduras to take over a big cattle ranch.

The Chinese will enthroned the Panchen Lama as ruler of Tibet.

British and French officials favour four-Power talks with Russia even if they are confined to German problems.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has held a conference with National Savings workers from all districts.

It will raise cattle in Swaziland as well in a plan to make Britain less dependent on Argentine beef.

Chinese agents are filtering into the Ladakh province of Kashmir, which is marked as

Scrap metal will come under control of the British Ministry

RAF pilots training in Britain are flying at speeds faster than pound in American Sabre jet fighters.

Large wool shipments are leaving Australia for Odessa to increase Russian stocks. The U.S. and Britain are perturbed.

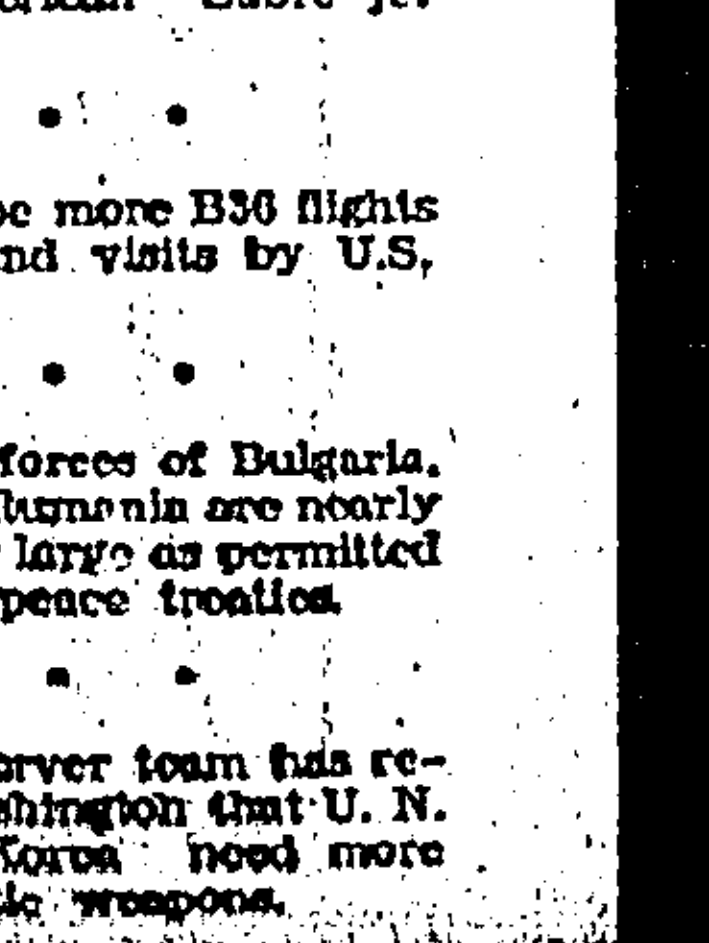
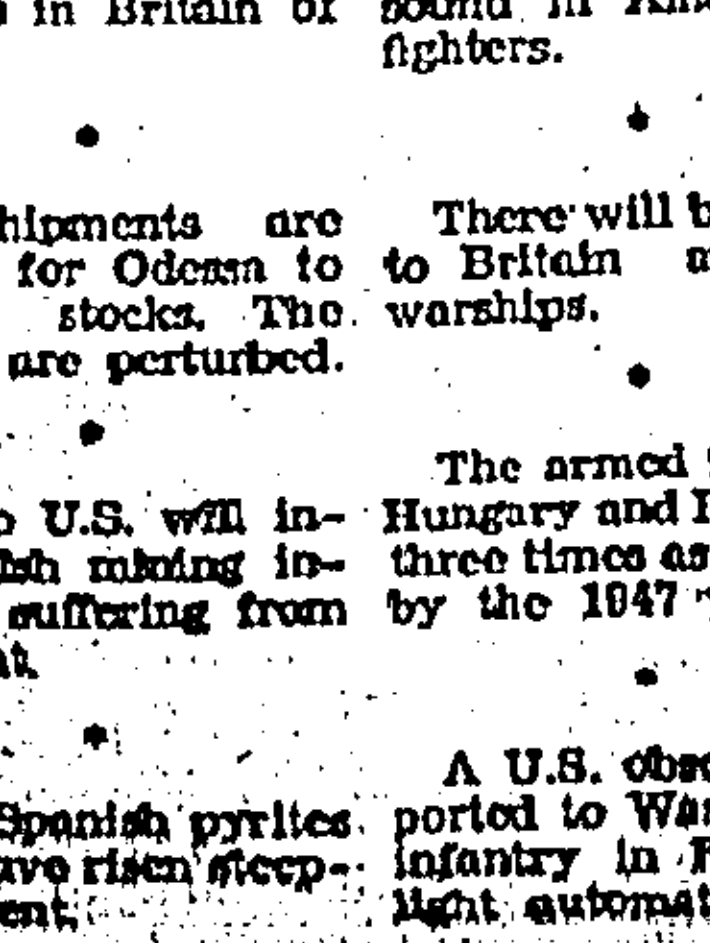
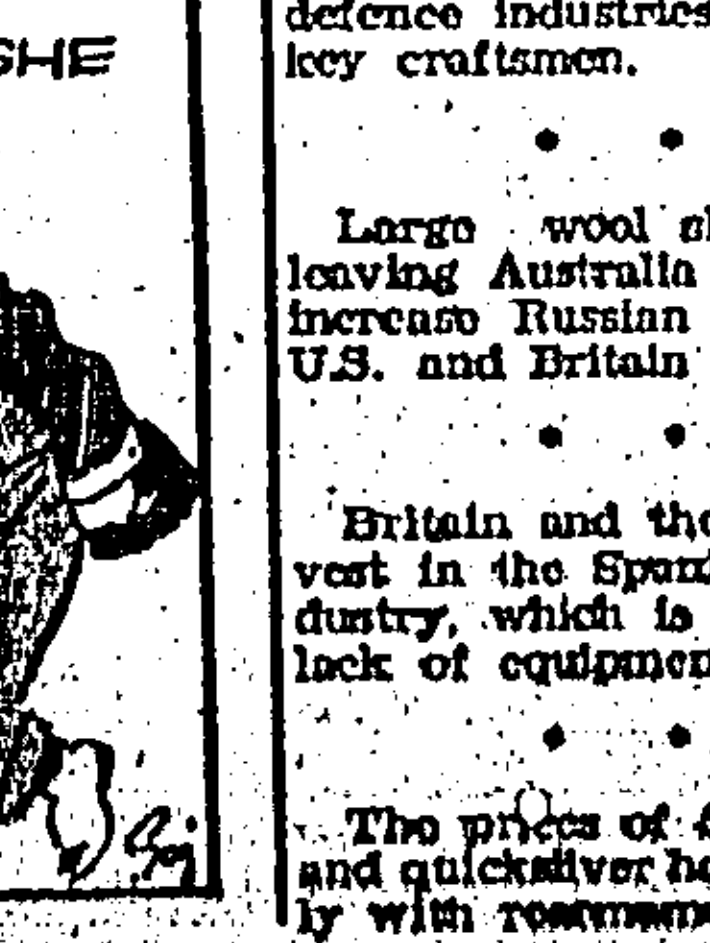
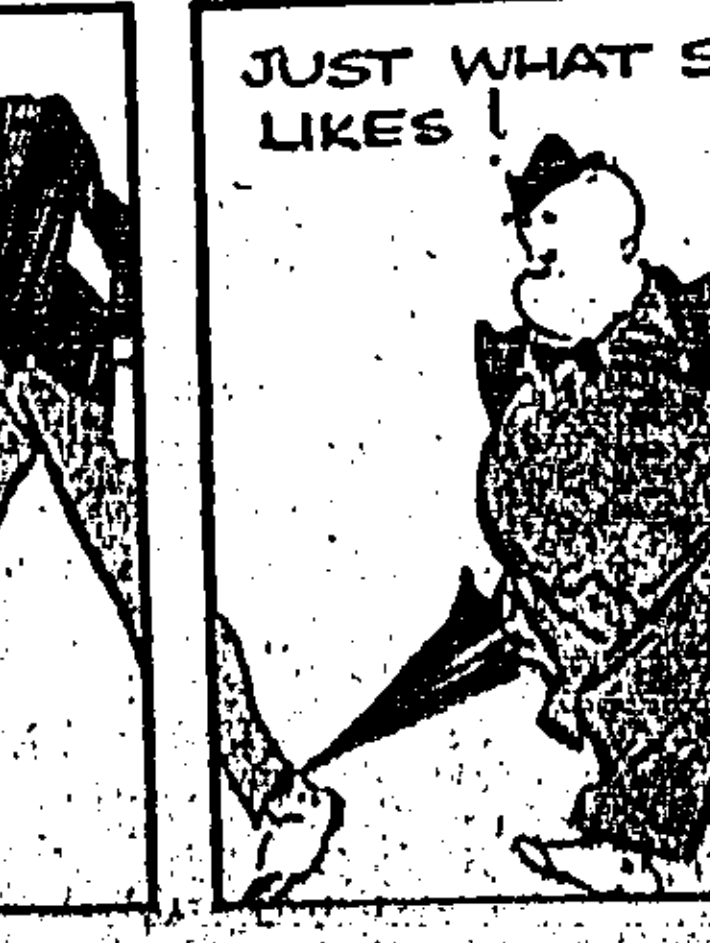
Britain and the U.S. will invest in the Spanish mining industry, which is suffering from lack of equipment.

The armed forces of Bulgaria, Hungary and Rumania are nearly three times as large as permitted by the 1947 peace treaties.

A U.S. observer team has reported to Washington that U. N. infantry in Korea need more light automatic weapons.

—(London Express Service)

POP



Blind Voyage

By MILDRED SNOW GLEASON

WHEN Teddy groped back to consciousness, she was so weak and sick that, for a few minutes, she was unable to move or think. Her head was aching as though a thousand hammers pounded in it, and she had no idea when she was or what had happened. All she knew was that she was lying on the floor somewhere, in the darkness.

Then memory came flooding back, and a shudder ran through her. She reached out a hand, and felt shelves. She must still be in the linen closet. How long had she lain there, unconscious?

Clutching at the shelves she struggled to her feet, and, fighting down the faintness that threatened to overcome her, she tried the door. It was locked.

She sank back to the floor with a groan. After a while, however, a little more strength returned, and she once more pulled herself upright. She began banging on the door, first feebly, then with more vigour. She continued to pound at intervals.

At last she heard a key being turned in the lock. But then, a sudden, terrifying thought smote her. Suppose it was the masked prowler coming back!

She held herself tensely, ready to try a dash for it, if necessary. However, as the door opened, she found herself staring into the astonished face of the steward, Todd.

"Miss Raynor!" The steward sounded horrified.

"I... I've had a slight accident, Todd," Teddy said weakly. "What—what time is it?"

"Seven o'clock, miss."

"Seven o'clock!" She had been unconscious for almost four hours!

"Help me to Miss Winslow's cabin," she said. "And, Todd, please don't say anything about this..."

"You can trust me, miss," he promised.

He was obviously consumed with curiosity, but as he gave her his arm and helped her to Charis's cabin, he asked no questions. They met no one on the way.

A knock brought Charis to her door. She had apparently just awakened, as she was in her dressing-gown.

Her eyes widened. "Teddy! What's happened? You look like a ghost!"

She caught hold of Teddy's arm and assisted her to the bed.

Teddy sank back on the pillows. "I came here because I didn't want to frighten my aunt."

As Charis waited for her to go on, Teddy glanced doubtfully towards the steward, standing anxiously in the doorway. Then she decided she might as well let him hear what had happened.

"Come in, Todd, and close the door..."

He and Charis listened intently as she told her story. When she finished, Todd was scowling.

"That prowler is going to crawl once too often!" he said between clenched teeth.

She reached for Charis's hand, feeling the need of some one to cling to.

"Sometime between three and three-thirty this morning," Denis told her as gently as he could. "According to our plan, we had been meeting at half-hour intervals all night. Up to three o'clock, when I last met him, neither of us had seen anything, and nothing had happened. Then, at three-thirty, he failed to show up at our appointed meeting place."

"It was just before three that I ran into the person in the hood," Teddy whispered. "He—or she—guessed that I was looking for Hugo. That may have sent the prowler looking for him, too. Teddy covered her face with her hands. "It's my fault. I was a fool!"

"Now, now!" Denis soothed. "Don't take it that way. What ever happened probably would have happened anyway. Besides, we don't even know that Hugo ran afoul of our mysterious friend. You mustn't worry. He may have got track of something and be lying low for reasons of his own."

"You know you don't believe that," Teddy said miserably. "You're just saying it to cheer me up. Well, you can't. Not with Hugo possibly... possibly dead. She got out the last word with difficulty.

"Oh, I'm sure it's not as bad as that!" Denis said quickly. "I don't believe that—murder is the object of this plot. There's some other reason behind it."

"What about Marie Galgan?" Teddy reminded.

"That's different, Marie knew too much—she became dangerous. But I don't believe her death was originally planned—it was forced."

"Have—have you looked for Hugo?"

"Of course—I've been looking ever since three-thirty."

"Have you told the captain?" Denis made a weary gesture. "I had a talk with him early this morning, but he kept re-

peating that he was a sea captain, not a detective. Find your murderer and I'll clasp him in iron, but you have got to find him—I don't know how, was his attitude."

"But surely he could do something about helping you to find Hugo!" Teddy protested.

"Oh, yes—he did. He detailed two members of the crew to help me. We combed the ship pretty thoroughly—with the exception of the cabins."

"You didn't find me," Teddy pointed out.

"Todd had already let you out by the time we reached the linen closet."

Teddy was silent a moment. "If he's nowhere else, then he must be hidden in one of the cabins."

"It would seem so, but the captain was rather nervous about giving me permission to search them. He's afraid for his own skin, if you ask me. However, I'm going to search them just the same. The steward has promised to help me. He can let me know when their occupants are out."

Dennis glanced at his watch. "It's time to meet him now. I'll come back as soon as I can—and when I do, I hope to have good news. Meantime— he gave Teddy a little pat— "keep a stiff upper lip."

When he had gone, Charis tried to get Teddy's mind off Hugo by talking of other things, but it was useless. Teddy could think of nothing else, and she lay there, imagining all sorts of possibilities and waiting impatiently for Denis to return.

It was two hours before he finally came back, and then, one glance at his face told her his search had been unsuccessful.

WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE:

Teddy (Theodora) Raynor and her boy friend, Hugo Albright, go on a cruise in the luxury yacht, Golden Gull. The cruise has been arranged through Dr. Smith's travel agency, but the sponsor keeps mysteriously in the background. Denis Graham, also a passenger, reveals to Teddy and Hugo that the Golden Gull was the name of a charitable secret society founded by her late father, and he suspects the cruise has something to do with it. The stewardess, Marie Galgan, tries to tell them of a secret rendezvous with Teddy, and that morning is found murdered in her cabin. That night the ship's engines suddenly stop. The mystery is deepened when someone wearing a long black hood is seen prowling around at night. Hugo and Denis agree to keep watch all night for him. Teddy, anxious for their safety and unable to sleep, leaves her cabin to look for them when she is attacked by the hooded terror.

NOW READ ON

Somehow, we've slipped up. He's got to be aboard, I tell you!"

He spoke emphatically, and yet, it seemed to Teddy that there was a note of doubt in his voice.

She suddenly could stand the strain no longer. She gave way to tears, and buried her face in the pillow, and Denis did their best to comfort her, but to little avail. She was ready now to believe only the worst.

"Buck up—hell turn up," Denis tried to reassure her. "Look here—how about getting dressed and coming up for lunch? I think it would do you good—if you feel well enough."

Teddy dried her eyes, and got control of herself.

"All right," she agreed listlessly. "Anything was better than lying shut up here, just waiting."

"Good!" said Denis. "And if any one asks about Hugo, just say that he isn't feeling quite fit..."

Teddy, however, had to tell her aunt about Hugo. She found Aunt Elsie in their cabin, wondering about her long absence, though Charis had given a vague explanation earlier in the morning. Teddy, concealing her own adventure of last night, pretended that Hugo's disappearance had been the only cause for her absence.

She got through lunch somehow, and then through the long afternoon. She knew that Denis was desperately continuing his efforts to find some trace of Hugo, but, at dinner-time, he had nothing to report except failure along every line.

"But I'll get results tonight," he said grimly, angling the revolver in his pocket. "I'm going to patrol the ship again, and I'll catch that prowler if it's the last thing I do!"

"Don't try it alone, Denis," Charis begged, her eyes clouded with fear. "Take some one with you."

"No—it's got to be alone. There is no one I can trust."

"All right, then—I'll sit up all night!" Charis told him. "And you've got to report to me every hour. If you fail to show up, I'll spread an alarm!"

After dinner, Teddy accompanied Charis to her cabin, determined to keep vigil with her. Every so often Denis stuck his head in. The hours dragged by.

Finally, toward eleven o'clock Teddy was so overcome by exhaustion that, despite her anxiety, she could wait no longer. As she rose to leave, a faint knock sounded.

Thinking it was Denis again, she opened the door, then stepped back with a smothered cry. Hugo, looking half dead, staggered in and collapsed at her feet.

Teddy's first reaction was overwhelming relief. But Hugo was alive. But instantly her joy was supplanted by anxiety over his condition. She sank to her knees beside him.

She saw that his clothes were torn, and that there was a nasty, discoloured lump over his left eye. Charis, who had closed and locked the door, got a glass of water and joined her at his side.

His eyelids flickered open. He looked up at them blankly for a second, then made an effort to rise.

"Lie still," Teddy said gently. "And don't try to talk just yet."

She cradled his head in one arm and held the glass of water to his lips. He gulped gratefully, then managed to sit up. "Got anything to eat?" he asked weakly.

"Not much," said Charis. "Only crackers and fruit."

He was hungrily munching on crackers, when Denis was heard outside, softly calling to be let in.

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SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"No wonder he looks successful—he owes more money than any other man in town!"

Even Suzanne shuts down in Nutland capital

From JOHN REDFERN: Kongwa, Tanganyika.

LOOKING as mild as a curate, Sir Eric Coates, 53-year-old £5,000-a-year chairman of the Overseas Food Corporation, flew into Kongwa at the week-end, and the groundnut folk were grateful for something fresh to talk about in their dreary day.

As he landed, the accountants at Hogoro, the new village 30 miles out where the area headquarters operated, bunged the last suitcase into a lorry and departed for Kongwa, leaving 25 houses and not a soul in them.

Hogoro is the first spot of the rash of Food Corporation shut-downs now that there is going to be only £6,000,000 in the kitty—after the expensive days when £36,000,000 was spent.

Inevitably rumour—which alone crops well on this hard brickish bush soil—is spurting again. Many here believe that Sir Eric is not only here to give a few hints about the possibilities under the reduction of the groundnuttery to an only partly mechanised experimental development, but that he may be here to sing his swan song.

TWIN GHOULS
NEW methods, new bossen (now that the Colonial Office has taken over from the Overseas Food Corporation)—so once again new men are expected.

The magnificent venture that was originally designed to "drain the African bush"—£250,000 food-producing acres—altogether.

Kongwa is just a ghost town. The lights still blaze in "Millionaires-row" where the big estate houses are, underneath a green hill. There is a perceptible movement inwards of new types. Government officials from Dar-es-Salaam on the coast, where various departments are burning at the seams.

But another notable import is thoughtful faces. The big estate houses are not alone.



(nearly the area of Yorkshire), 450,000 acres at Kongwa alone—is cut down to 24,000 acres for agriculture and 66,000 for grazing. Retreat and retrenchment, twin ghoulies, are prowling round the grassy side of the super-scheme. Yet, considering the long-drawn-out funeral rites, there is a wondrous lot of activity about.

The top men keep chugging round; out in the fields the acres in the three regions, then to 150,000—has affected few so far.

Last October, 80 groundnutters were told that they would be redundant inside six months. Some are still here, in the tin-roofed houses with the surrounding red earth relieved by shoulder-high manyana bushes.

That was just the start. Last November Coates was talking of a 40 per cent reduction throughout the nut lands. With the coming transfer to the Colonial Office, which has its own men for many jobs now handled by groundnut specialists, the number of Food Corporation chaps will be just about halved by next October.

The trouble is March keeps bursting out all over. March is when the next lot of groundnutters to be axed will know the worst. That will be the day.

CLUB JOKES
IN the cosy Kongwa Club, another Nissen hut, but made to measure with comfort, the types foregather nightly under a notice: "Do not leap from your chair while the room is in motion." With impetus from knock after knock, it is turning upside down and no one likes the sensation.

"Redundancy" produces plenty of club jokes. But each feeble flat joke is really a proxy for the anxiety now tucked away under many a bush shirt.

I met one fellow I remember as a great "becker" two years back. "Becker" came round to liking Kongwa, finally to loving it. Now he says: "I missed the best lot of firings but I may be in the next. And if I'm not, I'll start worrying about the third lot."

LORETTA PICKS HOLLYWOOD'S BEST-DRESSED MEN

—And Includes Her Husband, Of Course

By BOB THOMAS

Hollywood. This seems to be the season for 10-best lists, so let's have Loretta Young choose Hollywood's best-dressed men.

Miss Young seems well qualified to make the selection. She is considered by many to be Hollywood's best-dressed woman. Being a pillar of filmtown society, she sees the male stars in their best (and worst) finery at parties and dinners. What's more, she is entirely willing to go out on a limb.

"I may get a lot of men mad at me for leaving them out,"

she remarked, "but I'll take the chance."

It turned out that she named a round dozen. Here they are, not in order of preference:

1. William Boyd. "I pick him not because he has influenced the dress of more young men than any style-setter in history, but because he is very well-dressed himself. When he is out at private affairs, he is smart and conservative."

2. Ray Milland. "He is elegant. If he is at dinner, he wears a dinner jacket; if at family affair, a dark blue suit. If I saw him in densest Africa, I

would expect to see him wearing a mess jacket."

3. Enzo Pinza. "Because he made my stepfather sit up and take notice and now he is one of the best-dressed men in our family."

4. Robert Taylor. "He dresses with care. He is the only man I know who can wear a smoking jacket at home and not seem embarrassed. Most men apologize for it."

5. Joseph Cotten. "The Princeton type—conservative but smart. He looks as though he smells good."

6. Ricardo Montalban. "I pick him not because he is my brother-in-law, but because he is always spic-and-span and looks graceful. I don't know whether it's because of his tailor or his own natural rhythm, but he always seems fluid in his clothes."

7. Robert Mitchum. "On the occasions I've seen him—on the set or at a party—he always dominates his clothes. He wears them; they don't wear him. He usually wears a dark blue suit and man can never look wrong in one."

8. Barry Sullivan. "He has a fine physique and he doesn't ruin it by padding his shoulders."

9. Fred Astaire. "He is precise, neat and truly natty. In the best sense of the word. He is a New Yorker with an exclamation mark."

10. Clark Gable. "He wears casual clothes casually. And don't forget what he did for the turtle-neck sweater."

11. Van Johnson. "I pick him because the way he dresses is not only fun for him, but for all those who see him. Nothing ever matches on him and he thinks nothing of wearing red socks with a dinner jacket. He seems always at ease and never watches the creases in his pants."

"And that is the test of a well-dressed man—if he looks comfortable in whatever he's wearing."

Being the dutiful wife and employee Miss Young added this about her husband and producer: "Actually I feel that Tom Lewis comprises the dozen best-dressed men in Hollywood." —Associated Press.

A Cure For Sore Throat

A common cure for sore throat in Japan is to eat roasted orange seeds.

Two-Faced Topper News



All-weather reversible.

By VERA WINSTON

THE best of the season's coats are two-faced, a factor that is a boon to the restricted budget. The collar, cuffs and lining of this reversible coat are of checked wool tweed. The coat is shown with brown gabardine on the outside. While rain-proofed, it is not necessarily a raincoat, but rather a well-handled all-weather model. It can be worn belted or loose, thus allowing for even more variety.

Household Hints

A hat feather may be cleaned in dry cleaning fluid, then steamed to put the curl back, stretching each strand with the side of a spoon handle.

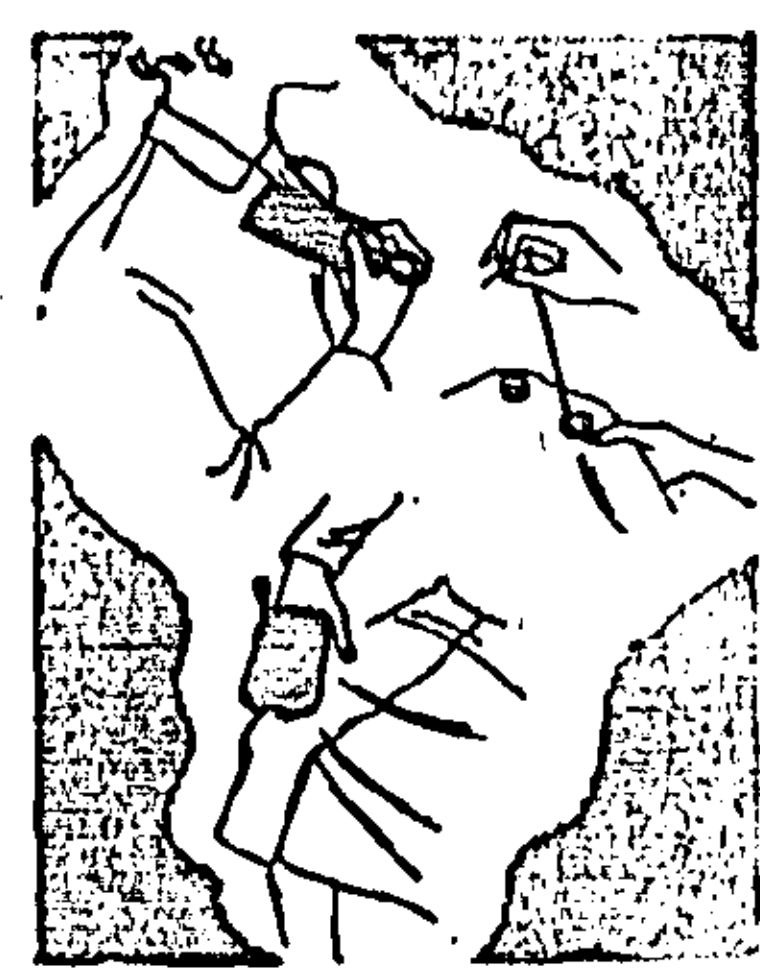
To keep your refrigerator and enamel stove clean and shining, wash with a solution of one teaspoon baking soda in one quart of warm water. Wipe the surface dry and polish with a soft cloth.

Premature shine on hubby's trousers or the working girl's skirt often results from lack of pads on office chairs. Even a thin pad delays the shine.

For added storage space under your kitchen sink, add narrow side shelves, racks on doors, hooks or sliding rods. Be careful not to make permanent installations that would interfere with plumbing repairing.

Your Sewing Scrapbook

Take Care of Clothes—Refresh, Refashion, Rejuvenate



YOU really can do a stitch-in-time routine with your clothes by devoting just one hour each week to their care.

Resew hems where threads are broken, for looks and safety. Resew hooks and eyes, snaps and buttons so they won't be lost or look untidy. If buttons have been lost or broken in laundering and cleaning, buy or make a new set and replace the whole lot.

Spot Removal

Spot-clean your clothes with a good cleaning fluid and scrap of wool that won't leave lint. Go over spots carefully. If they are serious ones, send garment to the cleaners. Use a deodorant to protect your clothes.

Keep a specially treated press cloth at hand and don't delay pressing wrinkles out. A good, careful pressing after removal can often delay a trip to the cleaners, and getting wrinkles out helps a dress to look new.

If you wear lingerie neckwear, wash it and freshen your dresses and suits frequently with it. If you haven't time to launder and replace them, better not buy them.

Watch linings of your coats. Be sure that they do not sag be-

low your coat. A bar stitch at the hemline can lift a lining back into place in no time at all.

If a dress or suit hangs neglected and unworn because shoulders are too large for now, fix them by making pads smaller or by removing pads entirely.

Top of Sleeve

If top of sleeves sticks up, rip seam across top and take out fullness. Baste carefully; stitch and press, and the shoulders should look right for today's fashions.

If dress is sleeveless, then remove all or part of pads, and make a deeper shoulder seam from armhole in, tapering to nothing at the neck.

If a dress hangs unevenly, sag or hem has been badly done, turn it new hem, even edges. Make it like new.

To Fit Figure

If skirt rolls just below waistline, open skirt seams. Restitch after providing enough room to allow garment to fit figure.

Use ribbon, rayon taffeta, velvet or velvet to refashion, renew and rejuvenate your last season's clothes. We all have to wear them, but with a little effort, they can look like this season's rather than last.

Put your whiskbroom into service on neckline and shoulders of your garments. Use it also on fabric hats and bags, which are refreshed further with cleaning fluid. Keep gloves cleaned and mended, also bags and shoes.

Clothes don't make the woman, but they surely help to make a woman more attractive, especially if she has a trim, well-put-together look. Remember, one hour each week can help you to present at least a neat and tidy appearance.

Sleep And Comfort

By ELEANOR ROSS

CARE in the selection of sleeping equipment and keeping it in good order is one of the big secrets of a happy home and healthy family. A few simple operations, faithfully performed, will extend the life of sleeping equipment and preserve its comfort qualities.

Mattresses should be turned once every two weeks—and for end one time, and side for side the rest. Doing this not only fluffs up the mattress but it distributes wear and so prolongs its good usefulness. Bed springs and boxsprings should be turned end for end twice a year for the same reason. Open windows wide every morning, turn back the bedclothes and give the fresh air a chance to penetrate the bedding.

Once A Month

Mattresses and boxsprings should be cleaned once a month with a vacuum cleaner attachment, or failing this, with a soft, clean brush. Metal bed springs can be cleaned with a dry cloth.

Never, never beat a mattress with a rug beater, and never bend or roll an innerspring mattress when moving it. It is a good idea to store the special container in which it arrives packed, in case you ever plan to store it. When going over mattress and bed springs keep a weather eye for defects or damage.

Good Fluffing

Give pillows a good fluffing every day. Unless you are an expert at this sort of thing, don't try to launder your pillows but send them out to a professional dry cleaner, one that specializes in household articles, or to first class laundry. If the feathers have lost their resiliency, the pillows need replacing, for not even the finest of professional cleaning will put new life into them. To keep out dust, investigate those nylon pillow covers, and if you like to experiment, try one of those new latex-foam pillows. Such a pillow is especially comfortable during hot weather.

Countess At Sadler's Wells



The Countess of Harwood arriving for the first night of "Don Carlos" at Sadler's Wells. (London Express Service)

To those going home —

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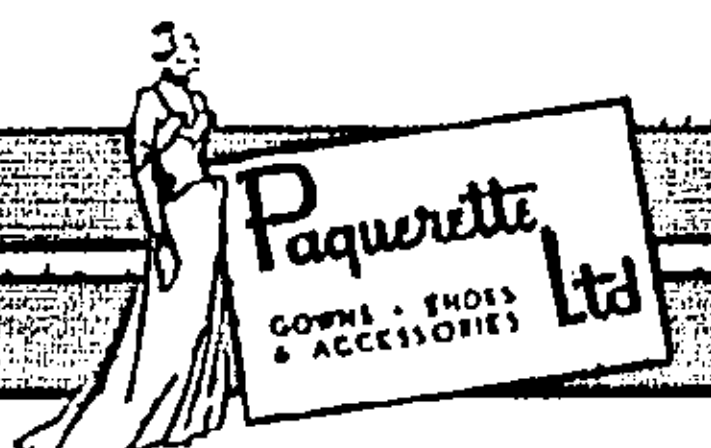
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BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

The Pixies Were Cooking

—They Wanted Their Neighbors to Be Well Fed—

By MAX TRELL

"NATURALLY," said Pixie O'Scowl to Knarf and Hanid, the shadow-children with the turned-about names, "we can't let all our neighbors starve during the winter." As he said this he stirred the large iron pot in which the soup was slowly bubbling. The iron pot hung over a fire, and the fire was in the kitchen of Chet Hall where Pixie O'Scowl lived with the rest of the pixies.

"Mm-m, it smells good," said Knarf, sniffing the pot of soup.

"Why shouldn't it?" said Pixie O'Scowl. "It's an A-1 Soup. Yes sir, it's all A-1."

Knarf and Hanid both looked puzzled, then asked Pixie O'Scowl what he meant by A-1 Soup.

"Humph," grumbled Pixie O'Scowl, "it means what it says. It's made of one of everything that begins with A. For instance there's one apple, there's one acorn, there's one almond, and one branch of alfalfa, and one anemone blossom, and one azalea, and one aster. There's also one artichoke."

"Oh!" exclaimed Hanid, who now understood what A-1 Soup meant.

"Of course," Pixie O'Scowl went on, "you might ask why I didn't put one alligator and one ant and one antelope into the A-1 Soup, too. But if you asked, I'd answer that I couldn't find them handy."

Stirred the Soup

With this explanation, Pixie O'Scowl stirred the soup some more. "Like a taste?" he said, offering the tip of the ladle to Knarf and Hanid.

They both tasted it. "I think it needs a little salt and pepper," said Knarf.

Pixie O'Scowl shook his head. "Sorry," he said. "I can't put them in. They don't begin with A, you know."

Hanid now asked Pixie O'Scowl who was going to get the soup.

"They'll be here as soon as the soup is ready. Just a bit more stirring... Ah, it's ready now! Help me set the table, please."

They all went into the next room. Pixie O'Scowl carefully brought the big iron soup pot in and set it in the middle of the table. It was a very strange sort of table. Some of it was made of a log, some of it was made of piled up stones, some of it was made of twigs, and the rest of it were leaves and grass and clumps of moss, with a sort of a pool at one end of it.

Knarf and Hanid were just starting to examine this table



Pixie O'Scowl stirred the soup.

when Pixie O'Scowl rang a bell. The next instant there was a stirring and a buzzing and a whirring and a scrambling and from a hundred different places around the room came all the hungry creatures.

There were caterpillars and grasshoppers. There were butterflies and moths and May flies and tiny crickets. There were frogs and toads. There were red newts and brown salamanders. There were crickets and katydids. There were spiders and bees and hornets and wasps and dragonflies. There were snails.

Enough Soup

"Easy... easy there!" Pixie O'Scowl was saying. "Don't crowd around me. There's enough soup for everybody. A-1 Soup! Stay in line!"

So, after some jostling around, the creatures all formed a long line several times around the room. Then, one by one, they came up and Pixie O'Scowl gave them each a ladle of soup in a plate made of a buttercup, and they all went with their portions to different parts of the table. The caterpillars and the butterflies all took places on the twigs. The moths and the spiders sat on the leaves. The snails crawled on the pile of rocks. The newts and the salamanders and the frogs and the dragonflies all sat around the edge of the pool. The grasshoppers sat in the grass. The bees and wasps and hornets sat on the log. The gnats and the Mayflies weren't strong enough to carry their own plates of soup, so Knarf and Hanid set up half a dozen filled buttercups on the moss and they all had their soup together.

"There's nothing to eat for any of them in the wintertime," Pixie O'Scowl said. "And if I didn't make some A-1 Soup for them, they'd all starve before Spring came around again. And what would Spring be like without them?"

Pixie O'Scowl had some A-1 Soup left over. So he and Knarf and Hanid had it right out of the iron pot. They sat on the pile of rocks.

Rupert's Autumn Primrose—38

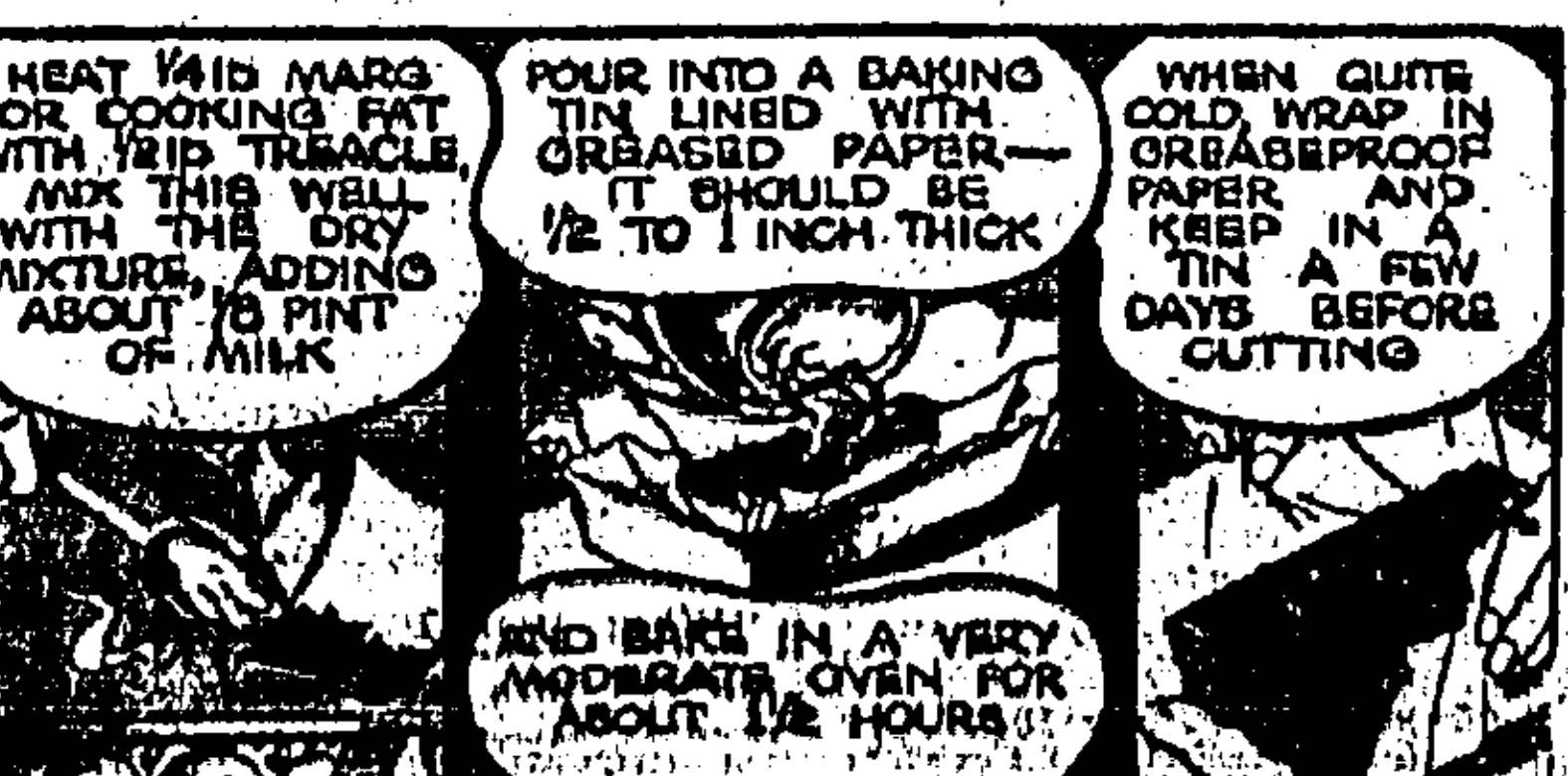


The ump and the elf dodge so fast through the rough grass and the bushes that Rupert loses sight of them. Then, to his surprise, he finds the Autumn Elf standing alone on a branch. "That ump has got away this time," laughs the tiny creature. "He doesn't worry, we'll catch him and send him home. He



can't escape for long now that we know his hiding-place. Then the garden will have peace and grow the right flowers." Rupert joyfully returns to tell the others. "This is wonderful," says the old man. "We should never have solved the mystery of the garden without you. Well, here!"

One of the original and attractive spring hats shown at one of the recent shows in Paris. It is by Rene Valois and is in grosgrain and decorated with two pheasant feathers.



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Bradford Market At Full Stop

Bradford, Jan. 30.
 For the first time in two months the market in wool tops has come to a full stop in the headings upward movement, and buyers were holding back. In the absence of pressing inquiries, wool top makers left all their quotations unchanged from last Thursday. Nobody dares to argue that the price rise is approaching the end, however—United Press.

New Buying Appears On Wall Street

New York, Jan. 30.
 New buying brought on by a proposal for a two-for-one stock split pulled the stock market higher today. Near the close there was a flurry of profit-taking that cut some prices down under their best. The spread of the wildcat railroad strikes in Detroit and Chicago had a dampening influence on the entire market. Higher were Canadian Pacific, Southern Pacific, Union Pacific, Southern Railway, Standard Oil of N. J., Texas Company, Philip Morris, Dow Chemical, American Cyanamid, U. S. Steel, Youngtown Sheet and Tube, Sears Roebuck, Schenley Industries and Zenith Radio. Among stocks moving lower were Jones and Laughlin, U. S. Rubber, Montgomery Ward, Admiral Corp., International Paper, American Can, Air Reduction and Homestake Mining. Dow Jones Averages:
 20 Industrials 240.58
 15 Rails 80.10
 10 Utilities 42.21
 Associated Press.

Production Up In U.S.

Washington, Jan. 30.
 United States mills and factories have turned out more goods this month than at any time since June, 1945, the Federal Reserve Board reported on Tuesday. The booming civilian demands plus the steady step-up in military orders were expected to send the Board's industrial production index for January to 220 per cent of the 1935-39 average. That would equal the rate of June 1945. The all-time high of 247 was set in 1949. The December industrial production index was 216. The Board said a sharp expansion in demand for most consumer goods helped to boost January production figures in addition to military purchases. A rapid expansion was noted in steel output. Passenger car production is staying close to the average rate in 1950 when the output was 30 per cent greater than ever before. Automobile manufacturers have estimated, however, that production will be cut 30 per cent or more this year when material curbs are in full effect. The production of most other manufactured consumer goods and building materials was close to the record levels in January. —United Press.

New York Metals

New York, Jan. 30.
 Prices in the metal market here closed today unchanged with the following exceptions: Tin, grade A (99.80 per cent or higher) New York, per lb. 183.—United Press.

Confusing Situation In Raw Silk Market

New York, Jan. 30.
 Leading New York silk dealers and SCAP officials expressed confidence today that the Economic Stabilisation Administration would clarify soon what effect the Government's price freeze has upon raw silk imports from Japan.

Everyone in the trade here agreed that the situation is extremely confusing. Meanwhile, trade is at a standstill. Likewise, there was general understanding here that so far the Government order has not frozen Japanese silk at \$5.50 a pound, as reported in Tokyo. "Nothing of the sort," commented one leading dealer, "Inquiries at ESA Headquarters in Washington elicited little information to dispel the fog. A spokesman there said the office had no information available at present on silk prices for the Dec. 19—Jan. 25 period. The Government order sets forth that peak prices during that period on commodities including those imported, shall determine the ceiling prices. Commodity market figures show \$5.50 a pound was the highest price paid here during that period for Japanese 'A' grade raw silk. That price was the nominal figure still quoted on Monday. Today, however, the quotation jumped to \$5.00 but no dealings were recorded. Pauline Geril, one of New York's leading silk importers and President of the U.S. Branch of the International Silk Congress, expressed optimism that ESA would soon clarify the freeze order. "Clarification must come down if we are to keep the wheels of commerce turning," declared Mr. Geril. He predicted that within 60 days, Congressmen with textile mills in their home districts would be bombarded with complaints if the order is not clarified. "Trade is at a standstill. Mills will close down if we cannot have the whole matter cleared up," declared the importer.—Associated Press.

Free Gold Market Operations Attacked In U.S.

New York, Jan. 30.
 The New York Journal of Commerce said today that the effectiveness and prestige of the International Monetary Fund were being undermined "by the snow-balling character of the world's free gold market." Canada was apparently on the verge of following South Africa's example "in succumbing to the lure of \$48 an ounce of gold," the paper said.

The Bank of France was reported to be operating indirectly in the black market, the paper added. As a result, experts here were interpreting the free gold moves as further evidence of the inability of the Fund to maintain stable foreign exchange rates in a world where conditions were changing drastically, it said. The Journal added that a leading figure in New York banking circles likened the Fund's position to that of a house apparently strong on the outside but gradually being eaten away by termites from below. "The financial opinion is that the International Monetary Fund will be able to hold the line on \$35 an ounce of gold, but only through diplomatic pressure that brings about an outward conformance to the IMF policy while permitting increasing evasions," the Journal said.—Reuter.

American Plans For Synthetic

Washington, Jan. 30.
 Senator Lyndon Johnson, Texas Democrat, reported plans for production of enough special synthetic rubber to keep military and civilian automobile tyres on the road. Mr. Johnson, as Chairman of the Senate Preparedness Subcommittee, said in a statement that Government agencies had informed him of plans to increase the annual output of this tread wear rubber by about 120,000 tons a year. The Senator said that seven or eight synthetic rubber plants would be converted in the near future to step up production of a new type of synthetic rubber known as Gold GR-S. It was developed in 1949. An aide of Mr. Johnson said the estimate of enough rubber to keep both defence and civilian tyres operating was based on use of the new synthetic both for new tyres and retreads or "recaps" used during the last war.—Associated Press.

New York Sugar Futures

New York, Jan. 30.
 World sugar futures closed today 3 to 7 higher, with sales totalling 134 contracts. Contract No. 6 closed today 5 to 6 higher, with sales totalling 205 contracts. Prices closed today as follows:
 Contract No. 4 (world) January 4.97 nominal
 March 4.97 traded
 May 4.96 traded
 July 4.96
 Spot Contract No. 6 January 5.40 bid
 March 5.41 bid
 May 5.42 bid
 July 5.43 bid
 Spot 5.40
 —United Press.

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET

The volume of business transacted on the Stock Exchange this morning was valued at \$37,720. The morning's business and noon closing prices were as follows:
 SHANGHAI BUYERS SELLERS SALES
 BANKS
 HK Bank 1245
 East Asia 990X
 HSBC 1245
 Union 625
 HK 130
 DOCK, ETC.
 K. Wah 721
 Provident 21
 Wheelock 20
 LAND, ETC.
 HK Hotel 61 500 0 00
 1000 0 00
 1000 0 00
 UTILITIES
 Star Ferry 111 200 0 11 1/2
 C. Light (O) 0.30 1000 0 6.10
 C. Light (N) 3.70
 C. Light (B) 6
 Electric 25 200 0 24 1/2
 Telephone 9 915 200 0 9.10
 INDUSTRIALS
 Cement 111 12 1/2
 STORES, ETC.
 Watson 111 12 1/2 300 0 20
 COTTONS
 Ewo 21 1/2

LONDON TIN MARKET

London, Jan. 30.
 Prices of tin opened easier this morning. Turnover was only 20 tons, including 5 tons for cash. Prices closed today at the end of the official morning session as follows:
 Spot tin, buyers 1,335
 Spot tin, sellers 1,335
 Business done at 1,335
 Three-months tin, buyers 1,310
 Three-months tin, sellers 1,315
 Business done at 1,310-1,315
 Settlement —United Press.

London Exchange Decline

London, Jan. 30.
 Fear of what the British defence programme may mean in the way of new taxes dampened enthusiasm in the London Stock Exchange today. British Government bonds slumped as much as 5/16 of a point under pressure of a steady stream of small sales. Blue chip industrialists generally held their own. The Financial Times' daily index of London stocks today was 120.3.—Associated Press.

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local financial exchange market this morning at the following rates:
 Sterling note (per £) 15.30
 U.S. dollar (per \$) 3.81
 Indonesia guilders (per 100) 4.00
 Siam ticks (per 100) 25.00
 Singapore (Straits) 15.00
 FIC plates (per 100) 12.70

Copra Nominal

New York, Jan. 30.
 Dealers continued to quote copra for nearby shipment on a nominal basis at \$257.50 to \$260 per ton, C.I.F. the Pacific Coast. In coconut oil, all positions were quoted at 10 1/4 cents per pound nominal, F.O.B. mills.—United Press.

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Rationing Of Steel Possible

Washington, Jan. 30.
 The Government is considering putting definite limits on the amount of steel and other metals that may be used to make passenger cars and other durable consumer goods, an authoritative source disclosed. Such limitations were described as a possibility during the second quarter of this year, which starts on April 1. The field of durable consumer goods, for which the limitations are being considered, includes automobiles, refrigerators, washing machines, stoves, furnaces and the like. An official of the National Production Authority (NPA), which issues material control orders, told reporters several different ways of limiting steel and other metals to durable consumer goods are being studied.—Associated Press.

THE RUBBER MARKETS

Singapore, Jan. 30.
 Prices of rubber futures here closed today as follows:
 No. 1 rubber, per lb. 211-212
 January 203-204
 February 199-200
 March 199-200
 Number 2 rubber, January 204-205
 Number 3 rubber, January 195-196
 Number 4 rubber, January 195-196
 Spot rubber, unbled 217-218
 Black crepe 199-200
 No. 1 pale crepe 221-220
 —United Press.

LONDON MARKET
 London, Jan. 30.
 Prices in the rubber futures market here closed today as follows:
 No. 1 rubber, in cents, per lb. 63-64
 March 62-63 1/4
 April/June 59-59 1/4
 July/September 53-53 1/4
 October/December 49 nominal
 —United Press.

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 ARRIVALS
 "TITJANAS" In Port 16th Feb.
 "BOISSEVAIN" 16th Feb.
 "TITJADANE" 8th Feb.
 8 via Japan.
 not calling Manila & S. America.

JAPAN
 ARRIVALS
 "BOISSEVAIN" 23rd Mar. 12th Feb.
 "TITJADANE" 16th Feb.
 "TITJANAS" 16th Feb.
 "TITJADANE" 18th Mar. 1st Mar.

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EUROPE via MANILA and MALAYA
 ARRIVALS
 "MELISKERK" 7th Feb. 10th Feb.
 "AAGTEKERK" 3rd Feb. 24th Feb.
 "TITJAWANGI" 3rd Feb. 1st Mar.

JAPAN
 ARRIVALS
 "MELISKERK" 9th Feb. 12th Feb.
 "AAGTEKERK" 5th Mar.

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"INDIAN DEAR"	Straits	Feb. 21	Feb. 22	San Francisco via Kobe & Yokohama
"J. L. LUCKENBACH"	Straits	Mar. 2	Mar. 10	San Francisco via Kobe & Yokohama
"CALIFORNIA DEAR"	San Francisco	Mar. 14	Mar. 15	San Francisco via Kobe & Yokohama
"PHILIPPINE DEAR"	Straits	Mar. 27	Mar. 28	San Francisco via Kobe & Yokohama

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